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Latin America Report

No. 2143

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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ: LATIN AMERICA FOLLOWING CUBA'S EXAMPLE

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 2

[Speech by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of Political Bureau of PCC, at inauguration of international theoretical conference on class structure in Latin America: "Work Program Proposed by This Scientific Conference Expresses Enormous Wealth of Class Concept of Society"]

[Text] Honored Comrade Perez Herrero:

Honored Comrade Auspert:

Honored participants:

Honored guests:

Comrades:

Through the initiative of REVISTA INTERNACIONAL and the PCC [Communist Party of Cuba], our country has been given the great honor of holding this International Theoretical Conference on "Class Structure in Latin America."

As we welcome the many delegations invited, we must emphasize how they, by their number and make-up, define the growing importance of the revolutionary political process in Latin America. Along with the communist parties which have been fighting for national independence and social transformations in our countries for more than 50 years, the revolutionary forces that have led the peoples of Nicaragua and Grenada to victories with historic significance which cannot be exaggerated as well as advanced detachments from Guatemala, El Salvador, Venezuela, Peru, Chile and Costa Rica and socialist parties in the region now work together in the interest of revolutionary analysis of our society.

It is both a scientific and militant meeting. All the participants are interested in defining the class content of societies in Latin America and leading what Jose Marti called Our America to the transformations that arise from its social needs and its historic projection.

It is no longer in question that the study of social classes and their movement is indispensable for understanding the history of the peoples and especially for working on social processes.

The scientific modesty of Karl Marx led him to admit that, before him, historians like Thiers and Guizot had explained the events in their time using the concept of social class and class action. However, only Marx and Engels, by discovering the law of movement of the capitalist society and by establishing the historic role of the means of production and the relationship between social groups and means of production, would give fullness to the concept of social class. With it, they could verify that all of written history, starting with the decomposition of primitive society, reveals a history of class struggle and the succession of classes to political power.

In the ideological battles of this century, the one that stands out is the one here. Bourgeois sociology simultaneously tries to contradict and replace the theory of the existence of social classes and their dynamic and dialectic conflicts. At the same time, it tries to denaturalize it, deform the Marxist concept of class and make it one more sociological category along with castes, races and social groups--an ingredient in the metaphysical soup with which contemporary bourgeois sociology tries to explain our reality to us.

We all recall how, in the emerging bourgeois sociology of this century, Weber, Werner Sombart, Span and others used the class concept for their own ends. At the same time, they criticized the Marxist use of the theory of class struggle. During the same epoch in North America, MacIver and Ogburn, and later Sorokin, took the same route. Other oppressive attempts like Georges Gurvich's are also well known.

The ideological battle has continued until our own days. The concept of social class is definitively established today in social sciences, but the attempt to deform it also continues. However, those efforts have been fruitless. The role of the class struggle as moving force of social development, the dialectics of the conflictive movement between classes and the confluence of some of them in the historic processes were definitively explained when Karl Marx gave us those masterly interpretations of history in his "Eighteenth Brumaire" and "Class Struggles in France." But Marx and Engels went even further. The pages of NEUE RHEINISCHE ZEITUNG recorded their masterly analyses of classes in the German society of their time,

not yet in terms of scientific interpretation of history but in terms of immediate application of those class analyses to the revolutionary struggles at that time. Their contributions on the role of the bourgeoisie, the landowners, the middle classes and the proletariat --even in their initial numerical and organic phase--were included in the works of that time on the revolutionary struggles of 1848 and 1850 and were summarized in the historic "Message of the CC [Central Committee] to the League of Communists" written by Marx in March 1850 in London and reproduced by Engels in the third edition of "Revelations on the Process of Communists in Cologne." This was the first time that the Marxist theory of class struggle was tied to concrete revolutionary action. That experience strengthened Marx' and Engels' convictions about the essential revolutionary role of the working class.

As in All Aspects of Marxism, Lenin's Perspectives on Class Are Enlightening, Immediately Practical

Today, when we are ready to use the concept of social class as an instrument of interpretative work and as a revolutionary weapon in Latin America, we cannot forget Lenin whose 110th anniversary we will soon celebrate. As in all aspects of Marxism, Lenin's perspectives on class are enlightening and immediately practical. In his analyses, Lenin not only confirmed that "the fundamental feature that establishes the difference between the classes is their place in social production" but he also carried class analysis to an educational level. Let us recall his early and admirable contribution to the study of the development of capitalism in Russia which is still, through the decades, a masterly analysis of the problems of economic development, perhaps the first one applicable to the problems that confront our backward countries. However, it is in his political works--like "What Is to Be Done?" and "Two Tactics"--and in his polemic works on the eve of the October Revolution where his brilliant way of understanding and applying the concept of social classes to the concrete historic fight of the proletariat appears to its fullest extent. That is where we must seek constant inspiration.

It is not a matter of repeating or interpreting what Marx, Engels and Lenin said in their time, but of using Marxism in the Marxist and Leninist way as a work instrument, a scientific guide, in order to apply it to the different conditions of our own time.

The work program proposed by this scientific conference itself expresses the enormous wealth of the class concept of society. In the background of the entire analysis, imperialism appears as the conforming and deforming element of the Latin American class situation, especially through its large multinational corporations. That imperialist presence acts as an inseparable conditioning factor in

the class struggle on our continent. When the Latin American historic process is analyzed for the past 50 years, from the time the proletariat became aware of its position in society, its role in the fights for national liberation and in social battles and gave itself its first political instruments through the communist parties of that time, it can be noted that the history of the world and our land has gone through profound transformations that enrich it and differentiate it.

New questions arise. You, for example, have proposed to define how the fact that, in some of our countries, there are still very concrete expressions of monopolistic capital is reflected in the structure and action of the social classes in Latin America. A preliminary consideration of the problem would show that inexorably, by its nature, monopolistic capital has an intrinsically reactionary significance in our underdeveloped countries and those with dependent capitalism. There is no doubt about this in the internal social aspect of our countries. When outlining the program of anti-imperialist struggle, it is necessary to examine and determine, with the essential subordination of the monopolies to the multinational corporations, what circumstantial conflicts can be exploited.

The existence of monopolistic capital has led some militants and revolutionary organizations to feel that this is a sign that the class structure has advanced so much that the time for a national liberating revolution has passed and the proletariat must launch a direct, definitively socialist revolution, eliminating every intermediate form of the revolutionary process. We must ask ourselves if that conclusion is inevitable. The adoption of a correct or erroneous strategy depends on the right answer to that problem. Therefore, the answer is no longer purely speculative but an urgent requirement of the immediate struggle.

These urgent and important problems appear in each of the aspects of the program that you are going to develop. The new ways foreign capital penetrates Latin American agriculture, for example, lead to specific forms of decomposition of the peasantry which is a constant feature of this social class. Although the characteristics of the old plantation agriculture tend to persist, the presence of imperialism also leads to a new type of capitalist farms with a more skilled agricultural proletariat which, therefore, is inclined to develop its class consciousness by accelerated ideological paths. That proletarianization of broad sectors of the peasantry complements the growth of the industrial proletariat arising in Latin America as a result of major industry. Imperialism is interposed here again with its structural deformation. The numerical and qualitative growth of the working class is accompanied in some countries with forms of income distribution that tend to separate the proletariat in basic industry from the rest of the working class

because of its standard of living. The slim profit margins force the capitalists to continually restrict the income levels of their own workers.

Thus, my comrades who are participating in this scientific conference, we are facing a problem that inspires us not only because of its rich ideological content but its concrete significance for our own objectives of struggle. How will the historic role of the working class be developed in this America? What will be the specific form of the alliance of the proletariat and the peasantry? To what degree is the concept of "national" bourgeoisie evolving and how has its political role changed? What is the role of the petite bourgeoisie?

We are sure that the scientific nature of the participants, their long experience and the background of class analysis of our society in Latin America will guarantee the success of this theoretical conference.

What Is Reality in Our Revolutionary Cuba Is Definite Promise for All Latin America

We are deeply grateful for your presence in our country. We welcome you as old work comrades. The class analysis of our social structure was initiated by us, the Cuban Marxists, 40 years ago. A careful examination of the political behavior of the different social classes was the basis for the strategic and tactical concepts of the Cuban revolutionary proletariat and its representative organizations. We can say with pride that "La historia me absolvera" [History Will Absolve Me] is a good example of how Fidel Castro oriented his decisive revolutionary fight which led us to victory, starting from a methodical, profound and excellent analysis of our social realities and their class expressions. Since then, Marxist analysis of the behavior of social classes has been confirmed in practice as socialist achievements have advanced in our country.

What is reality in our revolutionary Cuba is a definite promise for all Latin America. The conflicts between Our America and imperialism are becoming more serious and unresolvable. Imperialism has no other viable alternative than to ask Latin America to permit it to maintain the conditions of inequality and exploitation within a framework of reforms like those trumpeted 20 years ago at Punta del Este. Those who consoled themselves with the alleged "exceptionality" and "accidentality" of the Cuban revolution now, with the enormous historic leap of Nicaragua colored by a heroism and combativeness of the masses that show us the capability of the working class and the peoples of Latin America, have proof that Cuba is only a beginning that will have inexorable continuity. Grenada gives us

another inspiring example while the Salvadoran proletariat and students rise up from the brutal delay which they suffered 50 years ago and demonstrate their irreversible determination to remain on their feet until they achieve victory.

This is more than a scientific seminar we are inaugurating this morning. The works that are going to be debated here become part of the framework of direct contributions to the Latin American struggle for emancipation and undelayable social transformations.

We welcome you, dear comrades, in the name of the CC of the PCC, the communists and the Cuban people, as sharers of the same trench. We are sure that your work, by contributing to the revolutionary theory of the social structure of Latin America, will become a new weapon in the hands of our militant peoples.

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CSO: 3010

Barbados Minister Signs Loan Contract in Rio

FL211930 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 17 Apr 80 p 1

[Excerpts] Small-scale farming and road construction programmes in Barbados got a boost last Tuesday when two loan agreements of approximately Bds$17 million, were signed by the island's prime minister and minister of finance, Mr. Tom Adams with the Inter-American Development Bank.

The contracts were signed in the Inter-Continental Hotel in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during the 21st annual meeting of IADB's board of governors. Mr. Antonio Ortiz Mena, president of the IADB signed on the bank's behalf.

The first loan of approximately $8.2 million for the rural development programme approved by the bank in November 1979, will be channelled through the Barbados Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) and the Barbados National Bank (BNB).

The programme for which it will be used will help develop some 30 rural agricultural units of small holders benefiting about 1 500 families and tenants who farm 1 000 acres of land. Of these, 500 will be irrigated and the remainder will be improved through crop rotation. The programme includes infrastructure and agricultural credit sub-programmes.

In addition to the loan, the bank will extend Bds$914 000 in grant technical cooperation to the Government of Barbados to contract consultants to assist in the implementation of the programme.

The consultants will provide institutional strengthening for the Barbados Agricultural Development Corporation and training programmes for credit and agricultural extension officers. The total cost of the programme is estimated at Bds$12.6 million, of which the bank's loan will cover 65 per cent and local sources the remaining 35 per cent.

The other loan of approximately Bds$8.8 million will help ease severe traffic congestion in Bridgetown, by providing a more direct route between Bridgetown and the harbour as well as improve access to the Brighton and Spring Garden areas in order to serve residential and industrial development.

The project will also provide improved access to the Samuel Jackman prescod polytechnic, the Caribbean Development Bank and several industrial plants.

This loan will also be used by the Ministry of Communications and Works to build the two-mile Spring Garden Road from the President Kennedy Drive-Fontabelle Road intersection to the highway--University Drive and to improve the St. Barnabas Road which will connect highway 4 with highway 5.

The total cost of the project is estimated at Bds$260 000 of which the bank will cover 54.1 per cent and local sources the remaining 45.9 per cent.

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

URUGUAYAN, ARGENTINE ECONOMIC INTEGRATION--Montevideo, 17 Apr (TELAM)--The Uruguayan Government has created a working group made up of officials of the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Foreign Affairs, Industry and Energy, Agriculture and Fishing and the Planning and Coordination Secretariat to study the possibilities of strengthening economic integration with Argentina. [PY172223 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2120 GMT 17 Apr 80 PY]

URUGUAY EXPELS BRAZILIAN--Montevideo, 14 Apr (AFP)--It has been learned from reliable sources that the Brazilian citizen, Flavia Schilling, who has been in prison for 8 years on charges of being a member of the Tupamaros guerrilla organization, was released and expelled from Uruguay today. Flavia Schilling, accompanied by her sister Claudia; her defense lawyer, Gerson Mendonca, and about 50 Brazilian reporters and cameramen, left for Brazil aboard a regular airline flight without making any statements to the press. Jean Charles Serralta Delpech, a French-Uruguayan citizen; and Eulogio Rovino Argulla, Severino Alvarez Carvajal and Francisco Javier Peralta, all Spanish citizens, were also released and expelled last weekend. According to official reports, about 12 other foreigners will be expelled this month. [PY142235 Paris AFP in Spanish 2029 GMT 14 Apr 80 PY]

URUGUAY VIEWS LAFTA RESTRUCTURING--Montevideo, 11 Apr (AFP)--The Uruguayan Foreign Ministry confirmed today that a Latin American common market will begin to be established "gradually" starting in 1981. The official communique announced that a "preferential area under multilateral agreements or limited scope between countries or groups of countries" will be implemented in 1981. After considering as "essentially positive" the results of the meeting to lay down the foundation for restructuring of LAFTA recently held in Caraballeda, Venezuela, the Uruguayan Foreign Ministry stated that the "new integration plan will basically promote trade, economic complementation, economic cooperation and the development of the countries so as to broaden the markets." The official communique stated in conclusion that at the next meetings, to be held in Paraguay and Mexico, a document will be prepared proposing to LAFTA member countries the restructuring of this organization into a pluralist, flexible one that will provide for a system of preferential treatment which will take into consideration "the particular economic structure of each country." [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1543 GMT 11 Apr 80]

CUBAN TRADE WITH TRINIDAD, TOBAGO--Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, 5 Apr (CANA)--Cuba is seeking to set up permanent trade contracts with Trinidad and Tobago for fruits and vegetables from Havana, sales representative Joseph Gutierrez said here. Gutierrez, who arrived on a Cuban ship now [as received] detained here by quarantine authorities, has already begun talks with local merchants. He said that he was confident that Trinidad and Tobago was a good market for Cuban agricultural produce. He said: "Cuba sees Trinidad and Tobago as a very good market as far as agricultural produce is concerned...we want to diversify our markets, and this country has the potential of becoming our major importer of fresh fruit, canned fruits and vegetables." He revealed that a consignment of potatoes detained on the ship here was in fact not originally for Port of Spain, but for another regional country which after the ship's departure from Havana cancelled the order. He said that during that period a local wholesaler made arrangements to buy the entire shipment at a competitive market price and that's how the ship--enroute to Guyana, via Barbados--came to be in Trinidad with the potato shipment. During the offloading process, it was discovered that the ship's captain did not have the requisite permit declaring the type of goods the ship was landing and the authorities halted the offloading process. The permits are issued by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Port officials were unclear as to when the ship would leave, but many felt that it would not be before the middle of next week. [Text] [FL111405 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 6 Apr 80 p 3 FL]

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

INFORMATION SERVICES STUDY--In Barbados, the government has announced the establishment of a council to study the proposed integration of existing national information services. Making the announcement, Information Minister Nigel Barrow said the idea was to evolve a comprehensive plan for a national information system within the next 6 to 12 months. The council, which will have its first meeting with the minister on Friday, comprises mainly historians, librarians and educators. It will be responsible for examining the development plan of the information services and making proposals for their coordination where appropriate. The council also has the job of designing a plan for libraries in Barbados, developing guidelines for the effective use of finances in this area, and working out programs for the training of professional and other personnel in these services. [Text] [FL162114 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 16 Apr 80 FL]

AGRICULTURAL MEETING--Agricultural marketing experts from the Caribbean and international organizations today opened a crucial 3-day conference in Barbados that is likely to influence long-term policies for the development of agriculture. The experts, (?drawn from) organizations including the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank [CDB] and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, are examining the strengths and weaknesses of the agricultural marketing systems in the region. Addressing the conference today, CDB President (Julius Macmath) said the marketing of agricultural produce in the Caribbean has been plagued by problems for decades. [Words indistinct], however, that there have been some marketing successes confined to such [word indistinct] crop as the nut. [Text] [FL212103 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 21 Apr 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

EXILE MAJORITY WOULD NOT RETURN, WITH OR WITHOUT CASTRO

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 1 Mar 80 p 3-A

[Article by Alain Clement, LE MONDE correspondent]

[Text] Miami, 29 February--When the word "brigade" is mentioned in this city, no one is referring to the Soviet brigade which filled Washington headlines during the summer of 1979 without stirring up any particular emotion; rather, the subject is the Cuban legion that took part in the disastrous Bay of Pigs expedition of April 1960. This aborted "liberation" continues to be considered a failed epic among Cubans in Florida, but still an epic, the greatest point of reference of a shared past.

It is an indication of what route these immigrants have taken to note that since the Bay of Pigs they have turned their attention to peaceful activities (and have doubled in number in 18 years), remembering the failure of the Bay of Pigs. The spirit of the anti-Castro crusade has not been dampened, although it has been forgotten among the top officials of the U.S. Government, because the exiles feel they are incapable of coexisting with the impetuous hero of the Sierra Maestra.

Historian Arthur Schlesinger's account of this war, directed from CIA general headquarters in Miami, with alternating green and red lights from Washington (sounding just like a cloak and dagger novel) did not intend to ridicule the infantile nature of the plan. But many Cubans were surprised, because they could not imagine a power as great as the United States becoming involved in conspiracies such as those depicted in cartoons.

The atmosphere of agitation and illusion that prevailed until 1965, when Washington suspended its funding of the subversive campaign, did not help the emigres adapt to their new home. Meanwhile, they have been rebuilding their lives.

"Even if Castro were gone, we would never return to Cuba," say most of them. Is this their way of admitting that they are resigned to the consolidation of Castroism? It is true that they can no longer imagine coming back from exile, because a second Bay of Pigs would not be convenient at all. However, this thought has given them a conservative outlook.

8926
CSO: 3010

OFFICIALS PENALIZED FOR ABUSE OF THEIR OFFICE

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 24 Jan 80 p 1

[Article by Nieves Enrique Gigato]

[Text] The People's Municipal Court of Candelaria penalized Manuel Arias Delgado, former director of the Municipal Public Commerce and Food Enterprise; Felipe Cordero Ramos, former chief of services of that enterprise; and Elio Castellanos Gonzalez, former member of the Executive Committee of the People's Government in that municipality, for abusing the privileges of their jobs.

At the trial in case number eight of 1980, the defendants were found guilty of the crime.

Felipe Cordero Ramos and Elio Castellanos Gonzalez, taking advantage of their faculties as government directors, arrived on 18 August 1979 at the La Flora Pork Enterprise in the municipality of Candelaria and loaded three 70-pound pigs onto their vehicles, charging them to the Candelaria Public Food Enterprise, specifically the "El Palatino unit.

The next day they returned to that livestock enterprise and took another pig in the name of the Food Enterprise, and later went to the beach where they ate the pigs in a gathering of several relatives.

At the trial it was shown that Manuel Arias Delgado, then director of the Food Enterprise, authorized Felipe Cordero and Elio Castellanos to solve the problem. Thus, it was proven that the three accused were guilty of abusing the privileges of their offices in that they took advantage of their positions as directors to commit the crime, the motive being to appropriate public property for personal use.

Manuel Arias Delgado was ordered by the court to pay 270 one-peso fines; Elio Castellanos was fined 150 two-peso installments, and Felipe Cordero, 200 one-peso installments.

These citizens were relieved of their duties as directors.

8926
CSO: 3010

EVALUATION OF NEWSMEN ESTABLISHED BY OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 22 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Resolution No 428 of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security Concerning the Evaluation of Newsmen

Whereas: The reorganization which is taking place in the nation's journalistic activity has brought about the need to improve the set of regulations governing the process of advancement among its workers.

Whereas: In addition to the ideological and political qualities, the workers of the socialist press must have proper technical skills which will enable them to successfully cope with the complex tasks entrusted to them.

Whereas: Owing to the features of this activity, the evaluation of the workers engaged in it must be the object of specific regulation.

Therefore: Using the authority conferred upon me, I resolve

Chapter I

General Principles and Area of Application

Article 1. The purpose of this resolution is to establish the regulations for the evaluation of the workers who perform activities as press writers, press writers in foreign languages, assistant writers, assistant writers in foreign languages and photographic reporters, in order to determine their degree of qualification in the instances and with the procedures indicated.

Article 2. The evaluation will include only practical knowledge.

Theoretical knowledge will be vouched for by means of the pertinent degree or certification of an equivalent standing demanded by the intellectual requirements for each occupation which appear in the Annex to Instruction No 211, dated 14 March 1980.

Article 3. Workers who, at the time when this resolution goes into effect, have performed functions as writers, reporters, graphic reporters, assistant writers or headline writers for 10 years or more, without having been evaluated, and who have an acknowledged reputation in the field, may be excluded from the evaluation by the National Committee, which will accredit them with the proper degree of qualification, at the proposal of the rank and file or territorial committees, as the case may be.

Article 4. The evaluation of the workers will be made in the following instances:

a. When, at the time of the promulgation of this resolution, the worker is performing the functions of a writer, reporter, graphic reporter, assistant writer or headline writer, without having been previously evaluated in accordance with the legislation in force, except in the instances cited i. the preceding article;

b. When it is necessary to fill vacant slots which cannot be abolished;

c. When it is necessary to fill newly created slots;

d. When it is requested by a worker who feels that he has qualifications different from or superior to those required for the position that he holds, even when there are no vacant slots;

e. When the decision to do so is made by the competent courts, to settle a claim for better status made by one or several workers, through the procedure established for this purpose in the labor laws that are in force.

Article 5. If a worker who has already been evaluated shows signs of constant inefficiency in his work, the administration may request his reevaluation, following a prior discussion with the respective union section.

The provisions of the preceding paragraph will not apply to graduates who are performing social service.

Article 6. The administrations may temporarily fill with workers from the same activity, for a period not to exceed 30 days, the vacant or newly created slots, without need for prior evaluation.

In special cases, that period may be extended for another 30 days, in accordance with the union section.

Article 7. The workers who temporarily hold vacant or newly created slots, in conformance with the preceding article, will, until they prove in the pertinent evaluation that they possess the knowledge necessary for discharging those duties, earn 70 percent of the difference between the regulated salary for their qualifications and the rate established by the scale for the position which they are temporarily holding.

Article 8. A vacant or newly created slot may not be filled permanently without previously evaluating the worker. However, previous evaluation will not be required to hold a position as press writer or press writer in foreign languages, both of which have a C rating, when the worker holds a degree from an institution of higher learning.

Chapter II

On the Evaluation Committees

Article 9. The system of evaluation established by this resolution will be applied through the evaluation committees cited below:

a. Rank and file committees;

b. Territorial committees;

c. National Committee.

Article 10. The rank and file evaluation committees will be created for each press, radio or television organ which has 10 or more workers in the pertinent field.

Article 11. The territorial committees will be established in each province, and will evaluate the workers when it is impossible to establish the rank and file committee because the number of workers mentioned in the preceding article does not exist.

Article 12. The rank and file and the territorial committees will evaluate workers for the specialties of press writer, press writer in foreign languages, assistant press writer, assistant press writer in foreign languages and photographic reporter; and may grant the ratings of B and C, proposing the granting of the rating of A to the National Committee, when appropriate.

Article 13. The National Committee will have the following functions:

a. To oversee and control the implementation of the policy on evaluation by the rank and file and the territorial committees;

b. To devise the pertinent evaluation methods;

c. To grant the rating of A at the proposal of the territorial or the rank and file committees, in accordance with the provisions of Article 13; and request further background information when it is deemed necessary with respect to the evaluation;

d. To approve or reject the results of the reevaluations made by the territorial or the rank and file committees when they affect workers who hold the rating of A.

Article 14. The rank and file committees will be comprised of:

a. The head of the press, radio or television organ, as the case may be, who will chair it.

b. The secretary of work organization and the secretary of education of the union section, with the former serving as secretary.

c. A technician skilled in the pertinent specialty in each instance, selected by mutual agreement on the part of the administration and the union section.

d. A technician skilled in the pertinent occupation in each instance, elected at an assembly by the workers.

Article 15. The territorial committees will be comprised of:

a. The editor of the province's newspaper, who will chair it. He may delegate functions to a member of the board of directors.

When the evaluation involves workers from television or radio, the committee will be chaired by the provincial director of radio broadcasting of the People's Power. He may delegate functions to a member of the board of directors.

b. The secretary of work organization and the secretary of education of the provincial union, with the former serving as secretary.

c. Two technicians skilled in the pertinent specialty in each instance, selected by mutual agreement between the chairman of the territorial committee and the provincial echelon of the union.

d. A representative from the union section to which the worker being evaluated belongs.

e. A technician skilled in the pertinent occupation in each instance, proposed by the worker to be evaluated, who is a member of some rank and file committee in the province.

Article 16. When the evaluation involves workers desiring a position as press writer in foreign languages or assistant press writer in foreign languages, a technician skilled in the occupation with a mastery of the language in question will be included as a member of the rank and file, or the territorial committee, as the case may be.

Article 17. The National Committee will be comprised of:

a. A chairman, elected by the editors of GRANMA, JUVENTUD REBELDE, BOHEMIA, TRABAJADORES, VERDE OLIVO, AIN [National News Agency], and PRENSA LATINA;

and the vice-chairman for information of the ICRT [Cuban Institute of Radio and Television], including:

b. A representative of the National Union of Cultural Workers;

c. Between five and seven technicians who are highly skilled in the specialty and who represent the various news media, selected by mutual agreement by the chairman of the committee and the representative of the union.

Chapter III

On the Operation of the Evaluation Committees

Article 18. The evaluation procedure will begin in one of the following ways:

a. At the request of the administration, when the worker who is performing a job has not been evaluated;

b. At the request of the administration to fill a vacant or newly created slot, when there are no workers in the employees register;

c. Through a demand from the secretary of the evaluation committee, at the request of a worker, when the latter is acting in accordance with Section D of Article 4;

d. Through a resolution of the competent courts to settle a claim for better status.

Article 19. The reevaluation procedure will begin at the demand of the administration, in the instance stipulated in Article 5.

Article 20. The request for evaluation or reevaluation must be submitted to the secretary of the rank and file evaluation committee and, in the event that the latter does not exist, to the respective territorial committee.

The proposal for granting the rating of A will be transmitted by the secretary of the rank and file or the territorial committee to the National Committee within a period not to exceed 5 days reckoned from the day following the date on which the pertinent evaluation was made. The same terms will apply when the proposal consists of a request for approval of a reevaluation made of a technican who holds that rating.

Article 21. Once the request for evaluation in the instances cited in Sections A, B, C and D of Article 18 has been received, the respective evaluation committee must become organized, issue the notice of the meeting and make the evaluation, within a period not to exceed 60 days.

In order to make the evaluations cited in Section C of Article 18, and the reevaluations specified in Article 20, the committees must call for general evaluations and reevaluations at least twice a year.

Article 22. The notices of meetings for evaluations, when filling a vacant or newly created slot is concerned, or an evaluation of workers who are performing a job without having been evaluated, or the evaluation of workers who feel that they have qualifications superior to those required for the position that they hold, will be conveyed by the secretary of the workers evaluation committee, through the most suitable channels.

Article 23. The evaluations ordered by the competent organs and courts, and the reevaluations requested by the administration regarding workers who show constant inefficiency, will be announced only to those concerned.

Chapter IV

On the Results of the Evaluation

Article 24. When two or more workers pass the evaluation for the same slot, the one who has received the highest marks, in accordance with the rules established by the approved methodology, will have a preferential right to occupy it.

If two or more workers who have passed had the same mark, the one with the greatest seniority will be most entitled.

If two or more workers who have been evaluated receive the same mark, and have the same seniority, the following factors will be taken into consideration in determining who is most entitled: a. attitude toward work; b. work records; and, c. opinion of the workers.

Article 25. If the worker who is performing a job is disapproved upon being evaluated or reevaluated, the administration may transfer him, if there are vacant slots, to another occupation, in accordance with the legislation in force.

If this transfer should be impossible, the labor relationship will be considered terminated, in compliance with the regulations established in this regard.

Article 26. The administrations will be required to include in the worker's work records a copy of the certification of evaluation issued by the respective committee, and to give another copy to the worker.

Temporary Provision

Single Provision. Workers who, when this resolution is promulgated, are performing jobs for which they have been duly evaluated in accordance with the previous legislation, will be entitled to occupy the slots that are created, depending on their seniority in the employees register, without regard for the marks received in the evaluation tests.

Once the procedure stipulated in the preceding paragraph has been applied, the vacant slots will be filled in accordance with the provisions of Article 24.

Final Provisions

First: Parties who are dissatisfied with the evaluation that has been made may file a claim in the competent courts, through the procedure established for this purpose in the current labor laws.

Second: The vice-chairman who deals with the Directorate of Skilled Labor force is authorized to issue any regulations that may prove necessary for better compliance with the provisions contained herein.

Third: Any provisions which may run counter to the terms of this resolution are abrogated.

Fourth: To be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, for general information.

Issued in the City of Havana, on 14 March 1980.

Joaquin Benavides Rodriguez, president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security.

Dr Juan Mederos Carrion, counselor of the Directorate of Labor Legislation of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security.

I attest: That this is a true copy of the original which is in the Official Registry maintained by this Directorate. Issued in the City of Havana, 14 March 1980.

Dr Juan Mederos Carrion.

2909
CSO: 3010

NINE TOBACCO ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS REMOVED FROM OFFICE

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 14 Jan 80 p 1

[Article by Rafael Cao Fernandez]

[Text] The directors of the Edor Reyes Tobacco Enterprise of the municipality of Pinar del Rio relieved nine officials of their duties because of deficient work on their part, explained Ismael Falcon, director of the enterprise, at a meeting held in the theater of the Party Municipal Committee. The meeting, attended by the boards of directors of all the agricultural collectives, was chaired by Luis Enrique Peguero, member of the Party Provincial Bureau.

The deputy director of mechanization, the deputy director of services, the chiefs of construction, transportation and district number three, as well as the production technician of that district and the chiefs of the machinery squad, land preparation and cultivation of the same district, all were replaced in that enterprise.

The director of the enterprise explained at the meeting that the reasons for the discharges were a passive attitude toward work; lack of the necessary dedication to the work expected of each person; lack of foresight in preventing certain situations from degenerating into burdens on the economy, with solutions to the problems after the damage had been done; lack of the necessary influence by these squads on the workers, which logically followed from the above-mentioned deficiencies.

Further reasons cited were deficient performance of duties, and lax standards imposed on themselves and the other workers.

The Edor Reyes director also stated that there will be a meeting of the management personnel of each division of the enterprise in order to set forth clearly the procedures that will be followed in the future, and to inform the workers of the measures taken, demanding that each worker contribute decisively to the overall completion of tasks.

He also reported that evaluation committees will be created immediately in order to determine the apptitudes of each worker for the job he holds. There will be monthly evaluations to determine the efficiency of each man in fulfilling the responsibilities assigned him, so that the timely indications will contribute to the formation of leadership and administration teams.

8926
CSO: 3010

ANTISOCIAL DELINQUENCY IN PINAR DEL RIO COUNTERED

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 2 Feb 80 p 1

[Article by Irene Izquierdo]

[Text] "Our people's response to the crimes of one type or another that have been committed, has been expressed tonight by the representatives of the mass organizations of our municipality. For this reason we cry, Onward with the Workers Movement! Onward! Let the antisocial elements feel the iron hand of our peasants and our women, united with the members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, in their willingness to combat any action opposing the principles of our Revolution!"

These are the words of Luis Enrique Peguero Breijo, member of the Executive Bureau of the Party Provincial Committee and first secretary of the municipality of Pinar del Rio. He made this appeal at the end of the revolutionary meeting of the mass organizations in the struggle against antisocial elements of all types, which took place at the Rita Montaner amphitheater in this city.

The party leader also mentioned the methods used by the imperialists against the socialist camp in their battle to maintain hegemony, and especially the cold war policy which they have used on the USSR in order to destroy detente.

The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR) have proposed that the public join efforts with the Communist Party, the government and the Ministry of the Interior to strengthen the CDR guard, and that each member carry out this task.

The workers will reinforce the workers' guard in their workplaces, for which purpose there will be agreements drawn up, in close cooperation with the union locals, the administrations and the chiefs of physical protection.

The National Association of Small Farmers (ANAP) and the Federation of Cuban Women also expressed a willingness to strongly oppose any antisocial activity.

The mass meeting was chaired by Roberto Hernandez Mosegui, member of the Executive Bureau of the Communist Party in the province; Abelardo Barreto, member of the Party Provincial Committee and president of the municipality's People's Government, and other leaders of the party, the government and the mass organizations.

8926
CSO: 3010

CUBAN WRITER ARRUFAT WARNS PEN CLUB TO LEAVE HIM ALONE

Havana DIRECT FROM CUBA in English 30 Feb 80 pp 4-5

[This is a Prensa Latina "fortnightly press service" to "progressive publications"]

[Text] The Cuban writer and playwright Anton Arrufat demanded at a recent meeting of the Pen Club, held in New York, that his freedom of choice and decision, recently questioned by writers club, be left alone.

At the meeting of the Pen Club, held last week in New York City, it was insisted that writer Arrufat was "persecuted" in Cuba and jobless.

In a letter given to Prensa Latina yesterday, Anton Arrufat answered those charges, came out against the manipulation of the names of Cuban writers undertaken at that meeting, and stated that he feels "a fearless loyalty" for Cuba, where he lives, writes and works.

Following is the text of the Cuban playwright's letter titled "Warning to the Pen Club":

"A meeting of writers of America, sponsored by the Pen Club, was held recently in New York City. At that meeting, which was attended by several important writers, others less important and many not very well-known writers, the question of the literary and political climate prevailing our lands was discussed.

"I have no word of the brilliant and zealous speeches delivered there, but I can measure the nobleness of certain proposals by the manipulation of some names undertaken by certain participants.

"This event was attended by several writers recognized by their mobility: to swing from left to right, and from right to left. Apparently, for them, the social struggle is a question of seasons. The winter season, and the summer season.

"Very agile politically, they love to ski for a while and then go swimming at the beach. They can be seen strolling around, dressed in the latest fashion, and as said Virgilio Pinera--one of our great writers, who recently died in his homeland--with two different hairstyles.

"At such an illustrious fiesta, movingly pure, my name has been mentioned as an example of a dissident writer, censured and persecuted, victim of the fearful tyranny of Fidel Castro. Doubtlessly at that precise moment, the meeting of sworn enemies of all tyranny, was turned into a stupendous threatrical performance. The footlights blazing, the curtain rose.

"A skillful Cuban, Carlos Franqui, acted as stage manager, his chest replete with medals of ex-guerrilla fighter, ex-commander, ex-director of the newspaper "Revolucion" and ex-communist--, and with a wave of his right hand he called me into the stage assigning me a role in the performance, role which he himself, as directors do, had chosen previously. However, I must say that this seemed to me to be contradictory to men devoted to personal freedom, free choice, multiple options. Was it not a question of imposicion careful: don't fall into categorical negation.

"Well then, I said that I didn't like the role. If it was permitted, I'm not in agreement, I also want the beloved freedom which you yourselves have: the right to decide. I don't deny that between the Cuban revolution and myself there have been discrepancies and mutual misunderstandings. But, essentially, in the basic principles, unfortunately for you, we are in agreement. I have a fearless loyalty to it.

"Illustrious members of the Pen Club, leave me alone. Don't decide, or choose for me, as I can think for myself. In this land where I live, write and work. Is my position clear? Then please, with all respect, please erase me from your lists, Anton Arrufat, Havana, 1980."

CSO: 3020

EXCESSIVE MEETINGS, OTHER DEFICIENCIES PLAGUE GOVERNMENT

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 19 Feb 80 p 2

[Article by Lazaro Barredo Medina: "Problems That Affect Local Organs Evaluated Critically"]

[Text] At the recently concluded meeting between the Office for Attention to Local Organs of People's Government and the chairmen of the provincial executive committees and the executive committee of Isla de la Juventud, problems that still conspire against good administration of those organs were discussed.

During the debates on this topic, the need to fight for efficiency in administrative work and the correct use of the norms that regulate the functioning of those organs in order to have greater correspondence to daily work remained clearly established.

It was felt that one of the areas which showed deficiencies in the work of the local organs of people's government is the delegates' rendition of accounts to the electors and the subsequent treatment of problems presented to them.

There are still areas where the elector-delegate contact and its results are bureaucratic through formal procedures because there is no solution to this. Different bureaucratic systems have been contrived to supervise responses; this takes up the time of the executive committees when they should be analyzing the needs of the masses and fighting to satisfy them as much as possible with existing resources.

Also the delegates, in their meetings with the electors, read long formal reports to attempt to comply with the requirement to explain the people's government policy in those assemblies. Instead of talking about the decisions adopted by the local organ concerning the important problems that affect the lives of the people (services, use of construction materials, etc.), they talk about the

number of meetings held by the executive committee, the number of agreements adopted and other matters that do not interest the people.

For these reasons, the citizens in some areas attend these meetings with their delegates because of moral pressure in the district, not because of the topics that will be discussed there.

This meeting resulted in a message to all local organs of people's government that it is indispensable to end the bureaucratic nature of the contact between the delegates and the electors and make this a real mechanism to channel the needs of the people. It should become a vehicle so that the executive committees know the concerns of the masses better and can act more effectively to satisfy them as much as possible with available resources.

Another sign of indifference and bureaucracy that was discussed is the poor service that the people receive in some offices of the local organs of people's government. The personnel there even treats them rudely and does not give them complete or clear information. This has caused many of those citizens to go from one place to another to take care of a problem due to deficiencies in the information received. Numerous complaints about this have reached the national assembly.

Mistreatment in Service Centers

Analysis of poor service to the people was another main topic of the debates.

In his speech of 26 July 1974 in Matanzas, Fidel stated that the organs of people's government "should establish in all work centers, especially services,...the habit of treating the public conscientiously and well." He added: "That is one of the basic matters" today, after these local organs were formed throughout the country. In spite of this, it was emphasized that we are still far from having complied with that guideline, frequently due to administrative laxness or bureaucratic mechanisms which make the people suffer unpermissible mistreatment.

Several cases were given as examples which demonstrated that many service centers are still organized for the convenience of the workers rather than the customers.

This is shown in the service at restaurants and cafeterias and by workers not carrying purchases at industrial product stores on the days when the women workers shop, even if the store is empty.

It is also shown in grocery stores and butcher shops and other commercial activities which violate opening and closing hours, sell

defective products to customers, deliver underweight articles or less than the quantity sold, do not offer products in stock in order to work less or bring them out when it is convenient to the clerk or administrative official, provide slow service and many other deficiencies that cause justified discomfort or irritation in the people.

It was emphasized that some organs have taken measures that allegedly aim to make services more organized but actually constitute real obstacles for better service. Following are some examples.

Ration books for cleaners tie the customer to a certain cleaner even if he does not want to use it because of poor service. Customers are not permitted to take their televisions to the shops even when there is no transportation to pick it up at the time. Old mechanisms in some construction materials distribution organs force the customer to go to more than one store.

Excessive Meetings

The meeting felt that an important source of the deficiencies in the work of the local organs of people's government is the excessive number of meetings, resolutions and provisions as well as the extraordinary quantity of statistical information required for some activities. This includes the so-called complementary systems and other unauthorized statistics which are improperly required by the central administration organizations, executive committees, etc.

The excessive number of meetings, at times to excuse deficiencies in the officials' fulfillment of obligations, has reached such a point that it keeps some administrative leaders from concerning themselves properly with the activity they are in charge of. Examples were given like that of a director of an ESBBC [Basic Secondary Farm School] whose list of meetings he had to attend in a week was such that the only thing that he did not have time for was the direction of the school, the specific responsibility that the country assigned to him.

A similar thing occurs with resolutions, circulars and other provisions. There are organizations that dictate so many that they lose effectiveness since they cannot be assimilated by the lower levels. Even worse, there are cases where bureaucratic control becomes the fundamental motivation for work by different administrative leaders who do not give proper attention to the service problems that hurt the public.

It was emphasized that all these problems require profound analysis by the local organs of people's government so they can respond with practical and effective measures to the guidelines of the top political and state leaders summarized in the call for strictness and efficiency.

7717
CSO: 3010

SECOND PARTY CONGRESS AGENDA THEMES FOR STUDY TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Three Agenda Themes Discussed

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] The Second PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] Congress will be held in 1980. The realization of this most important event of Cuban communists and the people in general makes it possible to carry out research work and dissemination on the outstanding aspects that made the formation of the party possible, the party's historic roots and background and the First PCC Congress, the nature of its decisions and its importance for the entire political, economic and social life of our nation. This was emphasized in the Main Report given by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, when he said:

"There are events that are historic occasions for great political processes. This ceremony opening the First Party Congress is one of them. We have been given the privilege of living during the culmination of revolutionary life in our country. The sacrifices of countless sons of the Cuban nation for several generations was necessary to reach this. Many gave their lives for the noble cause of independence, justice, dignity and the progress of our people. At this time, we dedicate our emotional recognition to them, those who suffered, those who fought and those who died in the wars of independence, in the infamy of neocolonialism, in the battles against the last tyranny or in the consolidation and defense of the revolution. Without their ideas, their efforts and their blood, this congress that is opening now would never have been possible."

Fidel later stated:

"The party absorbs it all. The dreams of all the revolutionaries throughout our history are synthesized in it. The ideas, the principles and the strength of the revolution are concentrated in it. Our individualism disappears and we learn to think in collective terms. It is our educator, our teacher, our guide and our vigilant

conscience when we ourselves are not capable of seeing our mistakes, our defects and our limitations. We all join in it and we make each of us a Spartan soldier for the most just of causes, all of us together an invincible giant. The ideas, experiences, legacy of our martyrs, the continuity of the work, the interests of the people, the future of the country and the indestructible ties with the proletarian builders of a new world in all the corners of the earth are guaranteed in it. The party is the soul of the Cuban revolution today."

Objectives

Comrade Fidel's words acquire more strength and effect each day in Jose Marti's fatherland. In order to develop a general study and dissemination project on the historic period of the labor and communist movement before 1975 to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the First PCC Congress in 1980 and to hold the Second PCC Congress, the Historians Movement of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] and the mass organizations will form Second PCC Congress Study Teams which will write proposals related to the following themes:

1. Historic foundations of the revolution;

2. Economic, political and social development of Cuba until the First PCC Congress; and

3. Historic importance of First PCC Congress.

Drafting of Proposals

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] In recent years, there has been a massive study of our roots through the creation of teams by the UJC and mass organizations in order to commemorate important historic dates in our revolutionary process.

This year, in a similar project to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the First PCC Congress and the Second PCC Congress, there will be more direct guidelines for the formed teams to see that the proposals have the required quality and contain the following elements: index, title, introduction, body, conclusions and bibliography.

The index contains the table of contents of the proposal with the most important headings and their page numbers in order to facilitate its use.

The title has to be brief and precisely state the subject that will be discussed, reflecting one of the three general themes mentioned or a particular aspect of the theme selected.

The introduction is the first part of the body of the proposal where the subject is presented, explaining the nature of the topic to be discussed and the objectives of the study.

The development of the proposal is the main body where the aspects or subjects covered should be explained in an organized way, giving the necessary information and making the pertinent analyses.

The conclusions are the final evaluation which has been reached in the development of the theme covered.

The bibliography is the list of documents, books, newspapers or magazines that have been consulted to write the proposal. It will appear at the end of the work, specifying the name of the author, the title of the work, the publisher, the place where it was published and the date. If oral testimony is used, the name of the person interviewed, his participation in the events narrated and his present political status and job must be given.

Lastly, in the case of lengthy proposals, the authors will write a summary of 15 pages or less which will be discussed in the meetings that will be convoked at the different levels.

Schedule of Activities

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] 1. In January 1980 study teams were formed by the UJC and the mass organizations.

2. Between January and May 1980, the teams will write their proposals. The deadline with the established requirements will be 1 June 1980. They must be turned in at the municipal offices of the corresponding organizations.

3. The municipal courts will review and select from them as stated in the methodology included in the present document between 1 June and 30 June.

4. The municipal meetings will be held between 1 July and 15 July in celebration of 26 July.

5. Between 15 July and 15 August the provincial courts will review and select the best proposals.

6. From 15 August to 30 August there will be provincial meetings for members of the teams whose proposals have been selected as winners in the towns. This period will be used for the provincial meetings since during that time we commemorate historic dates

connected to the independence feats of the Cuban labor movement and important actions in the last stage of our process for national liberation.

7. The national meeting will be held between 13 November and 20 November 1980.

Study Team Organization

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] 1. The Second Party Congress Study Teams are formed at the local level with historians selected by each organization.

2. Each team works on one of the assigned themes or one of their aspects following the thematic guide.

3. In order to write the proposals, the teams will especially consult the following documents:

Main Report of the PCC to the First Party Congress presented by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the CC [Central Committee] of the PCC;

Program platform of the PCC;

Statues of the PCC; and

Thesis and resolutions of the First PCC Congress.

4. Since the basic documents that will be consulted by the teams have been published and put on sale to the public and are also available in libraries, documentation centers, Urban Basic Secondary Schools, Basic Secondary Farm Schools, etc., this material will not be published again this time by the DOR [Revolutionary Orientation Department] of the CC.

5. The members of the court will periodically go to the municipal libraries or documentation centers between January and June 1980 to consult with members of the study teams and answer questions or explain aspects of interest related to the themes that they are working on.

6. The teams will give talks in work centers and local offices of the mass organizations to commemorate the Bay of Pigs Victory, 26 July, Camilo-Che Day and the anniversary of the triumph of the revolution in 1980, based on the subject of their proposals.

7. The works will be presented in original and two copies and include the names of the authors and the work or study center or organization as well as the bibliography used to write the proposals.

8. All the proposals, whether selected or not and after correction of the deficiencies indicated, will be read by the authors in simple meetings with the workers, students, pioneers or members of the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], delegation of the FMC [Federation of Cuban Women] or peasant group to which the team belongs. In this way, the proposals fulfill the double function of study instrument for the members of the teams and part of the political and ideological work with the masses during the entire year of the Second PCC Congress.

Theme 1

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Historic Foundations of the Revolution

Thematic Guide and Bibliography

I. Colonial Cuba
   1. Slavery: paralyzing factor of revolutionary action in Cuba during the first half of the 19th century.
   2. Class nature of annexationism: "Manifest Destiny."
   3. Class nature and limitations of reformism.
   4. The Ten Years War; its progressive radicalization and expansion.
   5. The Zanjon Pact: Antonio Maceo and the Baragua Protest.
   6. Abolition of slavery as consequence of the heroic war fought by the Cuban people from 1868 to 1878, among other factors.
   7. Jose Marti and preparation for the revolutionary war (1895-1898).
   8. The Cuban Revolutionary Party; historic importance.
   9. The War of Independence (1895-1898); principal military and political events.
   10. U.S. intervention in the Cuban War of Independence; its nature.

II. Neocolonial Cuba
   1. The period of Yankee military occupation in Cuba (1898-1902); characterization of this stage.
   2. The Constitutional Assembly and the Platt Amendment.
   3. Formal independence; Tomas Estrada Palma; U.S. military presence in Cuba and trade agreements; investments of U.S. capital in our country.
   4. Deformed growth of our economy.

5. Administrative corruption of republican governments.
6. Economic, political and social situation of:
   6.1 The peasants;
   6.2 The workers;
   6.3 Students and professionals; and
   6.4 The women and children.
7. Founding of first Marxist-Leninist party; Carlos Baliño and Julio A. Mella.
8. The revolution against Machado; Provisional Revolutionary Government: Antonio Guiteras.
9. Fascism as ideological and political response of capitalism to Leninism; its effect in Cuba.
10. Authentic governments: Ramon Grau San Martin and Carlos Prio Socarras; general characterization.
11. Eduardo R. Chibas and the Civic-Political Movement.
12. The coup d'etat of 10 March 1952; the army of the republic: its class nature.
13. Inability of the traditional parties and leaders to undertake organized resistance to the military coup.

III. The revolution in ascendancy
1. Economic, political and social situation on the eve of 26 July 1953.
2. The armed struggle: fundamental vehicle of the revolution.
3. The Marxist-Leninist doctrine of the new revolutionary leaders.
4. The attack on Moncada barracks; "Historia me absolvera" [History Will Absolve Me]; historic importance.
5. The 26 July Movement.
6. The landing of "Granma"; the battle of Alegria de Pio; the 30 November uprising in Santiago de Cuba.
7. Fighting in the mountains and the plains; the Rebel Army.
8. The revolutionary triumph of 1 January 1959; culmination of the process of national and social liberation begun in 1868.
9. Conclusions.

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Theme 2

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Economic, Political and Social Development of Cuba until First Congress

Thematic Guide and Bibliography

1. Principal economic, political and social measures taken by the revolution in the first months of triumph.
2. U.S.economic aggression against Cuban revolution.
3. Increased awareness of the people.
4. Fulfillment of the Moncada program (October 1960).

5. Imperialist aggression at Bay of Pigs; historic importance.
6. Second Agrarian Reform Law.
7. Formation in 1965 of the CC and the Political Bureau.
8. The revolutionary offensive of March 1968.
9. The 5-year period 1965-70; solidarity of the socialist bloc, especially the Soviet Union.
10. Principal economic achievements by 1975:
    - 10.1 Sugar industry;
    - 10.2 Basic industry;
    - 10.3 Food industry;
    - 10.4 Light industry;
    - 10.5 Tobacco industry;
    - 10.6 Agriculture;
    - 10.7 Forestry development;
    - 10.8 Fishing;
    - 10.9 Construction;
    - 10.10 Transportation and communications;
    - 10.11 Foreign trade; and
    - 10.12 Tourist activity.
11. The social development:
    - 11.1 Education;
    - 11.2 Culture;
    - 11.3 Scientific research;
    - 11.4 Health;
    - 11.5 Child care;
    - 11.6 Sports;
    - 11.7 Social security;
    - 11.8 Solution to unemployment;
    - 11.9 Labor policy; and
    - 11.10 Judicial system; progress in administration of justice.
12. Political development:
    - 12.1 New constitution;
    - 12.2 Political and administrative division; and
    - 12.3 Mass and social organizations:
        - 12.3.1 Labor organization;
        - 12.3.2 Peasant organization;
        - 12.3.3 Womens organization;
        - 12.3.4 CDR;
        - 12.3.5 Social organizations;
        - 12.3.6 Student organizations;
        - 12.3.7 Union of Cuban Journalists; and
        - 12.3.8 Organization of Jose Marti Pioneers (before Union of Cuban Pioneers).
13. FAR.
14. Ministry of Interior.
15. UJC.
16. PCC.

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Theme 3

Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Historic Importance of First Congress

Thematic Guide and Bibliography

1. The PCC Congress as culmination of development of the fights of the Cuban people for national independence and socialism.
   - 1.1 Dynamics of organizational development of Cuban revolutionary vanguard: the ORI, United Party of the Socialist Revolution; formation of CC of PCC and Political Bureau on 3 October 1965; and
   - 1.2 The Communist Party as vanguard of the working class in power; its leading role in the socialist society.
2. Economic projections of First Party Congress.
   - 2.1 Creation of material base:
     - 2.1.1 Socioeconomic development in the 5-year period 1976-80; and
     - 2.1.2 Principal tasks of 5-year period 1976-80.
3. Political projections of First Party Congress.
   - 3.1 Political organization of Cuban society; the party;
   - 3.2 New democratic and socialist state; people's government organs;
   - 3.3 Cuban Constitution;
   - 3.4 Ideological work and concrete problems; leading role of PCC;
   - 3.5 Marxist-Leninist education of our people;
   - 3.6 Revolutionary ideology and religious ideology;
   - 3.7 Nature and function of mass media; and
   - 3.8 International policy of Cuban revolution; proletarian internationalism.
4. Social projections of First Party Congress.
   - 4.1 Education;
   - 4.2 Sciences;
   - 4.3 Artistic and literary culture;
   - 4.4 Public health;
   - 4.5 Formative work with children and youth;
   - 4.6 Women in the socialist society; and
   - 4.7 The agrarian question and the peasantry.

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7717
CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

CLERKS PENALIZED--A total of six store clerks were penalized in the municipality of San Cristobal for cheating customers. Jose Baez Bustamante, an employee of the El Criollito grocery unit, was punished with a fine of 120 one-peso installments and was prohibited from serving as a store clerk for 1 year. Maria A. Gonzalez Oliva, a clerk at the Santa Cruz store, was required to pay 60 one-peso fees, and was prohibited from serving as a clerk for 1 year. Also punished were Cecilio Morejon and Estela Morejon Torres, who worked at the La Grande and Entronque de Fierro stores, respectively; they were fined 60 one-peso installments. Clemente Villarreal and Marcos Alvarez Urqueaga, the former employees of the Santa Cruz Supermarket and the latter administrator of the Campo de Tiro store, both were penalized by being admonished in public by the People's Municipal Court of San Cristobal. [Text] [Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 2 Feb 80 p 4] 8926

WORKPLACE SECURITY VIGILANCE GUARD--The Pinar del Rio workers movement this month will develop an assembly procedure in order to form a workers' guard at workplaces, or to strengthen existing guards. The decision was made voluntarily by the workers. At these assemblies the union locals or bureaus will gather the signatures of all workers willing to join the guard, and later the administration or board of directors and the physical protection committee, as the highest authorities in charge of plant security, will form the guard, draw up regulations and elect the comrade who will lead the guard. The workers' guard will be formed once the union local or bureau submits to the comrade in charge, at an assembly of all the workers, the signatures of those wishing to serve. The union locals are responsible for supporting the guard and making sure it fulfills its obligations, and discussing problems with workers who do not do their duty or violate the rules in some way. Moreover, at the monthly assemblies there will be reports on the compliance of the guard, and there will be annual awards of certificates to those who have shown the proper attitude in this task. [Text] [Pinar del Rio GUERRILLERO in Spanish 6 Feb 80 p 1] 8926

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

HURRICANE HITS NORTHERN COAST--Santo Domingo, 21 Apr (LATIN)--Authorities have reported that a strong hurricane today lashed the northern coast of the Dominican Republic and caused serious damage in Puerto Plata, leaving it without telephone and electrical services. The hurricane knocked down trees, and damaged more than 100 houses. The official reports stated that the number of persons who have suffered losses is in the "hundreds." The small villages of Luperon and Imbert were isolated due to the flooding of rivers. Puerto Plata is one of the most important tourist centers in the Dominican Republic. [Text] [PA221512 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2143 GMT 21 Apr 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

FUR ANSWERS STUDENT COMMITTEE CHARGES

PA241747 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 18 Apr 80 p 45

[Paid advertisement by the United Revolutionary Front: "FUR Reply to the Antiterrorist Student Committee," containing 15 April letter to PRENSA LIBRE editor in chief; passages between slantlines published in upper case]

[Excerpts] Dear Sir:

The newspaper LA PRENSA LIBRE on 12 April published a paid advertisement containing a communique by the "Antiterrorist Student Committee" specifically citing the United Revolutionary Front (FUR) in Paragraph 13, which reads: "We are offering to collect funds to pay the fare to Cuba for all those who are inciting the people to violence; to all those who are promoting communist ideas; all those who are just attacking the system, because the resentment which characterizes these failures makes them feel like strangers in their own land. The University Higher Council, the University Students Association, the poor people's guerrilla army, the FUR, the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization, the rebel armed forces, and so forth, are nothing but small groups which make plenty of noise, because that is all they do."

The FUR was given legal standing by the electoral registrar in a 14 March 1979 resolution after its ideological base had been approved and after it had presented a list of its 90,000 members by that date. This means that the FUR does not advocate a totalitarian doctrine but that its tenets are democratic. Otherwise the incumbent government would not have let it function as a political party. Therefore, the Antiterrorist Student Committee has lied. It made a mistake in saying that the party is advocating a totalitarian ideology and that we are a small group. In addition to its duly registered members, the FUR has a higher number of sympathizers than any other party in Guatemala.

The self-st[illegible]ntiterrorist Student Committee is the one that is inciting violence bec[illegible] it has accused groups such as the FUR of advocating totalitarian doctrines and it is well known that in Guatemala such a label gives the repressive and paramilitary groups good reason to kill those who belong to a revolutionary political organization which is serious,

honest and truly representative of all conscientious Guatemalans. We do not hide behind made-up names as the Antiterrorist Student Committee. The FUR leaders are known to the public and so we hold the Antiterrorist Student Committee, among others, responsible for any violence against the FUR members.

The FUR tells the entire Guatemalan people that its principles are eminently democratic and its philosophy is to promote the consolidation of a de jure state capable of solving national problems objectively and realistically in line with the idiosyncracy of our people to achieve the common good and the integral development of Guatemala.

The objective of the FUR in line with the principles of its nontotalitarian, democratic leftwing ideology is to guide the Guatemalan people to a definitely nationalist goal and to seek alternatives for the renewal of our political and socioeconomic system, based on total respect for man.

In this crucial stage of our existence, the FUR has asked the Guatemalan people through the democratic organizations to unite and it has admitted any citizen who accepts the democratic system of government and fights for economic, social and cultural development in Guatemala.

/This is the FUR/, a political party with a democratic ideology, and so /we refute/ what the Antiterrorist Student Committee has stated. We repeat that we do not hide behind false names because we have been recognized by and registered with the pertinent authorities. We have always advocated dialogue and not /violence/ as the only way to find solutions.

To tell Guatemalans to assume their responsibility to defend their lives, freedom and dignity and that of their children is not /violence/.

Sir: Pursuant to the law on the expression of ideas and because the FUR was directly mentioned, we beg you to publish this letter in the same type and in a full page in exercise of our right to reply.

For the homeland and the revolution

United we shall overcome

[Signed] FUR National Political Council, National Executive Board.

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

NEW FUEL PRICES APPROVED--The government today approved new prices on fuels. The Mines and Hydrocarbons Ministry released the following price list: supreme gasoline 1.95 quetzal per gallon; regular 1.90 quetzal per gallon; kerosene 0.90 quetzal per gallon; diesel 0.99 quetzal per gallon; the price on bunker was lowered to 0.62 quetzal per gallon. [Text] [PA242347 Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa in Spanish 1331 GMT 24 Apr 80]

INCREASED BORDER VIGILANCE--The Guatemalan authorities have stepped up vigilance at the borders with neighboring countries to prevent all types of smuggling, particularly arms smuggling, it was reported yesterday at the Government Ministry. It was added that the authorities are focusing their attention on the borders with El Salvador and Mexico because there have been reports that some persons are ignoring the border controls and engaging in smuggling activities. The sources said that there is always the risk that the smugglers might establish contacts with subversive elements, particularly if the smuggling involves arms. That is why vigilance is being stepped up to prevent this unlawful activity. [Text] [PA241546 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 18 Apr 80 p 17]

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

MEDIA PRESSURE, DISTORTION CHARGED--Two senior Guyanese Government ministers today declared that the government of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham had been the victim of pressures and distortions from the mass media in the region and beyond. The accusations were made by Deputy Prime Minister Dr Ptolemy Reid and Health Minister Hamilton Green in separate addresses at the 25th conference of the commonwealth's Caribbean Medical Research Council being held at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown. Speaking at the opening of the conference, Mr Green invited overseas delegates to take the opportunity to see what was happening in Guyana. Dr Reid also threw out a similar invitation to the visitors before formally declaring the conference opened. Neither minister gave any details of the so-called pressures and distortions but government spokesmen have often charged that the foreign mass media did not reflect an accurate picture of conditions in Guyana. They have also frequently denied opposition charges that Burnham administration had imposed a dictatorship on the nation. [Text] [FL162107 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 16 Apr 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY SUPPORTS PLURALISM

Tegucigalpa EL CRONISTA in Spanish 21 Mar 80 pp 1, 2

/Text/ The PDCH /Honduran Christian Democratic Party/ believes that the electoral system is the most appropriate and civilized way to organize the Honduran state, provided the latter fully guarantees ideological pluralism and the participation of all sections of the country in the quest for and development of a united and just society.

Arnaldo Villaneuva Chinchilla, PDCH representative, expressed himself clearly to this effect yesterday in the discussion about the electoral process, held in the main auditorium of University City, which the School of Journalism of the National Autonomous University of Honduras sponsored.

Nevertheless, because they think that the present election process is completely corrupt and fraudulent and carrying it out is inconsistent with Honduran democratic aspirations and it does not represent any democratic opening, so necessary and urgent at the present time, both here as well as in the Central American situation, they are advocating active non-participation since involvement, in such circumstances, is equivalent to legitimizing the illegitimate and becoming an accomplice.

Notwithstanding, Villanueva Chinchilla pointed out that this position is not based on the denial of the legal registration of the party with the TNE /National Electoral Committee/, but precisely because the political process which will take place in the elections does not offer any alternative for national democratization.

The PDCH bases its position on the fact that the present elections are corrupt and fraudulent, because the military government approved an election law eliminating everything

regarding the creation of a National Register of Persons, as the essential basis for the most effective population census, removing it from the control of the municipal mayors' offices for obvious reasons.

Likewise his party "was harassed within the TNE by all kinds of obstacles to prevent its registration, designed especially by the national party, which attempted at any price and was able to gain absolute control of the above committee, in complicity with the government, guaranteeing a prejudiced outcome of the elections on next 20 April in its favor."

On the other hand, after completion of the census, the government began to replace quickly and systematically throughout all Honduras mayors and municipal secretaries belonging to the liberal party, with national party members, with resulting election fraud, which the liberal party itself exposed on radio and television.

8490
CSO: 3010

PLH EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR MILITARY

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 2

[Article by W.P.R.]

[Text] Prof Jose Dolores Gonzalez, prominent member of the PLH [Liberal Party of Honduras] of Honduras declared to LA PRENSA, "the Liberal Party asserts that the Armed Forces are and must be a permanent institution dedicated to the defense of sovereignty, territorial integrity, the maintenance of peace and public order and succession in the administration of government."

The third candidate for regular deputy for Cortes Department, Gonzalez declared that the army will participate in the next constitutional liberal government "within the limitations of its internal organization, as well as in the right to public offices." He indicated that although a certain section of the army destroyed liberal government in 1963, the person hurt the most by this cruel blow, Dr Modesto Rodas Alvarado "never reproached, threatened or resented the army as a whole, because he knew that the entire officer class itself was not to blame, but only that high ranking soldier who gloried in the coup sport in Honduras."

ALIPO [Liberal Alliance of the People]

Regarding the acceptance of the ALIPO movement within the framework of liberalism, Prof Gonzalez concluded that "ALIPO is not in any way out of favor with the main party leaders. There merely exist differences of opinion very characteristic of a political organization as broad as ours,"

"Possibly they made two mistakes, not helping liberalism's census campaign and not taking part in the domestic elections of 2 December, since there, behind popular support--if they

had obtained it--they would be on the deputy rolls today. He added I believe that the sensible attitude which they must take now is to unselfishly support the party in this struggle, since the doors are wide open to them."

He said besides that ALIPO members will be asked to collaborate with the new liberal government "because they have many outstanding persons."

National Party Plan

Referring to the national party plan of government, the candidate for deputy remarked that "some say that it is a demagogic plan, others that it is unattainable, but it is the people who can best make their decision. I do not believe that any plan of government is all bad when it is drawn up prudently and honestly. There are always positive aspects, although during a statement of Nicolas Cruz Torres at a Rotarian Club discussion, one of these attending said that "it seems to me that this plan can frighten the Sandinista revolution."

Second Degree Elections

Regarding the subject, Prof Gonzalez disagrees with the opinions which have been expressed about that aspect, when he asserts that not all the people are opposed to second degree elections.

He emphasized, "I maintain that it will be future circumstances, the historic moment we will be living in at that time, which will determine that situation. In this business of electing the president in first or second degree elections, sincere opinions, but also personal interests are involved, with honorable exceptions.

Asked whether this decision could cause an atmosphere of national unrest, Prof Gonzalez pointed out that "I do not believe that we are going to calm those forces, which fortunately are small, with any kind of elections and the proof is that beginning today they are boycotting the elections for the Constituent Assembly.

8490
CSO: 3010

CUBAN ARMS TO EL SALVADOR DISCUSSED

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 7

[Text] On 25 March, the United States Government, through Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs John Bushnell, asked the American Congress to support an appropriation for military aid for Honduras for the purpose of strengthening our country in the face of the totalitarian threat that is convulsing Central America.

Speaking before the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House of Representatives, Bushnell explained that the $3.5 million that the White House is requesting for Honduras had not been included in the budget for this year because--when it was drawn up--it was clear that this country did not need it; but considering the present situation in El Salvador and given the geographical proximity of the two nations, "That need is obvious."

Discussing the turbulence in the region, the U.S. State Department official said that Honduras' geographic location, between Nicaragua and El Salvador, makes this small Central American country the "geopolitical key" of the process the United States hopes "will emerge in Central America."

In his statement to Congress, the assistant secretary of state also spoke of the fear, expressed by some members of the Honduran Government, that El Salvador will fall into the hands of extremists, which would cause problems for its nearest neighbor.

However, the most important remark made by the member of the Carter administration was that "some portions of Honduran territory are being used for the clandestine movement of men and arms into El Salvador, with Cuban assistance."

This is the first time that a high-level Washington official has made such a charge, and it publicly indicates not the possibility but--according to him--the fact that our country is being used in a way similar to that in which Costa Rican territory was used during the war between the Sandinists and the government of the Somoza family in 1979.

When these editorial remarks were being prepared, the reaction of the Honduran Government and armed forces to the statement was still unknown.

Of course, knowing the regime's position on this matter, it can only be supposed that--if such a movement of arms and men in our territory has in fact taken place--it would have to have occurred surreptitiously.

Although many would consider this impossible, the reality is that the Caribbean Coast of Honduras is long and poorly guarded, for there are only a couple of patrol vessels, and the Navy itself is now being organized.

Therefore, it is not unlikely that men and arms from Cuba have landed at night and that they then were transported to El Salvador across the border, which, as we know, is also long and mountainous and at points adjoins not only El Salvador but also Guatemala.

Several days ago, it became known in political circles in San Salvador that the guerrilla fighters and terrorists, who have just intensified their offensive against the Revolutionary Junta, have been hiding in the so-called "pockets" along the border, which are a sort of no-man's-land.

When this information reached the two armies, their leaders agreed to make periodic sweeps through those areas; and these were broken up by the armed radicals.

But such cooperation is only spotty and extremely uncertain because Honduras and El Salvador have no diplomatic or commercial, or any sort of, relations as a result of the 1969 war.

Perhaps because of that, the two governments are trying to quicken the steps leading to peace, for they are daily more aware that the danger of totalitarianism is a threat to all and that it can be neutralized only by means of joint action.

On another matter, Mr Bushnell expressed some views that deserve consideration, however brief.

He told the American congressmen that "in Honduras human rights and civil liberties are respected, and the elections on 20 April for the Constituent Assembly will pave the way toward a return to full constitutional government."

The tenor of his remarks before the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee makes an important point clear: The Carter administration harbors good will toward our country. It wants to assist in the attainment of the political, economic and social objectives formulated by the regime, and it is prepared to strengthen its position, both economically and militarily, in the region.

In exchange, something very simple, but at the same time basic, is being asked: that the 20 April elections be absolutely free and result in a democratic system that combines properly representative elements with those involving economic, social and cultural change.

Anyone who has carefully read the statement issued by the White House at the close of Honduran chief of state's recent visit to the U.S. president will recall that it said that Mr Carter was prepared to fully support the plan for /free elections and social reforms/ [in boldface] that had been described to him.

The request made by Mr Bushnell to the legislature in Washington is simply the putting into practice of that statement. At the same time, it is a clear warning that (contrary to what many believe) the extremists of the totalitarian international are in fact active in Honduras. What has happened is that, because they have been using our territory as a supply area, they have preferred to refrain from fomenting acts of violence here that, if they took place, would provoke increased vigilance and [illegible word] by the armed forces, which would limit the opportunities for aiding subversives in El Salvador.

There are several inferences that can readily be drawn from the official's remarks; but perhaps the most important ones are: a) Vigilance along the coast and the borders must be increased, and b) Every effort must be made to insure that the April elections are genuinely free and representative of the people's will.

The first measure will raise our level of security. The second, as important as the first, or more so, will create the conditions for the birth and growth, both healthy and vigorous, of a modern, pluralist, model democracy in Central America, one capable of bringing justice and well-being to our people and of guaranteeing, in the long run, stability, growth and peace.

9085
CSO: 3010

PAPER QUESTIONS DEMOCRACY IN NICARAGUA

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Mar 80 p 7

[Text] A document of unquestionable relevance and indisputable interest was published a few days ago by the Social Democratic Party of Nicaragua (PSD), affiliated with the Socialist International and known for its line of firm opposition to General Somoza's expelled dictatorship.

In substance, the PSD message states that the Sandinist National Liberation Front, the true holder of power in our neighboring country, is working toward the establishment of a Cuban-style totalitarian dictatorship in Dario's homeland.

The accusation--signed by Wilfredo Montalvan and Luis Rivas, secretary general and political secretary of the party in question--is addressed to the Socialist International, which opened a Latin-American area meeting a couple of days ago in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, and--apparently--it has had just slightly less than the effect of a bomb going off in the midst of the meeting.

In response to recent accusations to the effect that its political line is "reactionary," the Nicaraguan PSD says, "We believe that to oppose the installation of a totalitarian regime in Nicaragua is not to be counter-revolutionary. We believe that the Socialist International does not support regimes depending on force; and it is unfortunate that, without really learning what is happening in our country, it is issuing statements hostile to a people that wants: democracy, yes! totalitarianism, no!"

The PSD leaders indicate various aspects of the progress that the dictatorial forces subservient to the Soviet Union have made in Nicaragua, citing in the first place the centralization of authority, "which in part demonstrates the desire to establish a totalitarian dictatorship in our country."

According to the message, the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] has proposed the creation of a Single Federation of Sandinist Workers (It is already doing so), coercing all the union federations that do not

agree with that plan, such as the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers (CTN), the Confederation of Union Unification (CUS) and the General Confederation of Independent Labor. Moreover--it says further--not only have major obstacles been placed in the way of their activities, but there is evidence that uniformed, armed members of the Sandinist Army appear at work places for that purpose.

Furthermore, the Nicaraguan Social Democrats state that the FSLN "has not looked kindly on the founding of our party, for their goal is to form a single Sandinist party in Nicaragua. To accomplish this, they are centralizing everything in the national government and havp organized the Committees for Sandinist Defense (CDS), which are an exact copy of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR) in Cuba."

It goes on to say that "the leaders of the FSLN know they can easily obliterate the traditional parties, which are worn out and discredited, but not a new party such as the PSD, which was created with the slogan: 'For a revolution in liberty.' Thus, considering their totalitarian inclinations, they do not want political pluralism, which is what they committed themselves to in the Program of the Ruling Junta of National Reconstruction."

After setting forth a number of points of unquestionable concern, such as the situation of the communications media, which are controlled by the government, and the fact that television broadcasting has actually been nationalized, the Social Democratic Party states:

"At present, there are an estimated 4,000 Cubans working in our country. There are 2,000 teachers, hundreds of doctors and nurses, experts in communications and security systems, and so forth. This is something that, in fact, makes us uneasy because, in addition to their function of teaching, attending to the sick and so on, these kind folk have the mission of indoctrinating our people with Marxism-Leninism. We hope that all the countries which helped us in the insurrection will send us help similar to that from Cuba to counteract the influence that they are exerting among our people."

Although the quotation is long, we wanted to reproduce it as accurately as possible because, as any observer can see, it is not a communique from the Somoza family or a document drafted by Cuban exiles in Miami.

It is a serious, significant denunciation by a socialist party that was formed in the process of the struggle against the dynasty's regime and that hoped--like the Chamorro family, like Alfonso Robelo--to replace the old, corrupt tyranny with a healthy, modern democracy.

However, those who have managed to attain control of the military apparatus have another point of view.

It should be noted that what the PSD says largely coincides with remarks made recently by journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, editorial

writer for LA PRENSA, at the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) meeting held in Costa Rica.

Don't come to us with the story--unlikely and farfetched--that both the PSD and the son of the martyred journalist are "counterrevolutionaries."

Both the party in question and the family that publishes the most important newspaper in our neighboring country have fought for years, for decades, against Somoza, although the members of the PSD organized as a party only a short time ago, hoping to participate in the pluralism that was being declared and that is on the verge of becoming an ideological illusion.

What is important and instructive about this denunciation is that it comes from people who fought the old regime. Who played the role of "flunky." Who now, the extremists having secured all the power, have become "counterrevolutionaries."

It is not unlikely that, when least expected, they will expel them from the country or throw them into prison. That, however, is not the most important matter at the present moment. What everyone considers most significant is how the Socialist International will react to this alarm.

If it prefers to side with those who are in power and ignore its comrades in the embryonic opposition, that will provide a clear measure of the lucidity and depth of its analysis. If, on the other hand, it studies the charges carefully and attempts to help true democracy to survive, its prestige--at present somewhat tattered because of the strange economic notions of Luis Echeverria and Carlos Andres Perez--may undergo a rebirth full of hope.

9085
CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

ELECTION ACTIVITIES ON ISLAS BAHIA--Without bitter words, without crafty maneuvers, but full of a tremendous faith in the future of Honduras, the inhabitants of Islas de la Bahia Department are working hard to win the largest number of supporters to bring their best people to the Constituent Assembly. The leaders of the national and liberal parties and the PINU /Innovation and Unity Party/ are constantly visiting all and each one of the communities scattered in the three major islands, including the keys and islets. This political activity, which has never been seen before in this delightful Honduran area, is being carried out in typical United States style, where the personality, honesty and forcefulness of the candidates for a seat in the next National Constituent Assembly are emphasized. The investment made by the representatives of the national party Messrs Allen Hyde and Alden Bennet, who have had all the placard and symbolic slogans made in Miami, United States, stands out conspicuously. They are printed in English and exquisitely produced. The national party leaders told this newspaper they visited all our towns more than once, therefore, we know we will win. We will have a number of representatives in each one of those towns who will observe local needs and will report them to a central headquarters, which will be located in the department capital. They will be analyzed there and finally referred to the deputy so that the latter in his turn channels them to the highest level (C.M.P.) /Text/ /San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Mar 80 p 5/ 8490

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL UNREST DISCUSSED

Paris LE MONDE in French 6, 7, 8, 10 Mar 80

[Article by special correspondent Alain Rollat: "Martinique, the Slayed Island"]

[6 Mar 80 pp 1, 10]

[Text] The appeal to observe "public order," issued on Monday, 3 March, at Fort-de-France, by Paul Dijoud (LE MONDE, 5 March) was the subject of an energetic commentary in L'"HUMANITE in its Wednesday, 5 March issue. The PCF daily believes that the warning issued by the secretary of state to the Ministry of Interior in Charge of Overseas Departments and Territories is a "true summon to the colonial order."

Before leaving Martinique for Guyana Dijoud specified that, "in the next few days the government would be forced to make 'all Martinicans understand that the law must be strictly respected and observed by everyone in a French department.'"

The secretary of state, in effect, has formulated a "plan" for "regaining control," the main line of which will be defined in our investigation. The plan will be an answer to supporters of autonomy and independence who consider the economic and social difficulties of the island favorable grounds for the development of their political activities.

1. The "Perfect Crime". . .

Fort-de-France. One would imagine him sitting beneath a torch, teaching philosophy to adolescents. Or else, reciting poems between hibiscus and the bougainvillaea of the Savane Garden which borders the Baie des Flamands. One is, therefore, somewhat surprised to find him in this small and sad-looking room which he uses as his offic in the loft of this old colonial building with its white walls and green shutters--the Fort-de-France municipal building.

Yet, when Aime Cesaire begins to talk, in his calm tone of voice, when smiles begin to shed soft light on his stern face, his eyes shine behind his gold-rimmed glasses and, suddenly, his entire being begins to vibrate, moved by some kind of internal volcano, that one understands the fascination on the Martinicans which this man has, a person about whom Andre Breton said with admiration that, "it is the human pot at its highest boiling point."[1]

Mayor and deputy--today affiliated with the socialists--of Fort de France, since 1945, reelected at the first round of the municipal elections of 1977 and the 1978 legislative elections, and president of the Progressive Martinican Party (PPM, for autonomy), which he founded in 1957, after breaking with the PCF for visceral incompatibility with Stalinist bureaucracy, Aime Cesaire is here the center of political life.[2]

Poet, writer, playwrite, in the Antilles he symbolizes the struggle for decolonization and against the sequels of slavery, rejection of cultural assimilation, and the search for negro and African values.

Not everyone likes him but everyone, or almost everyone, respects him. His spiritual influence, nevertheless, has its limits. Whereas Aime Cesaire, 67 today, reigns in Fort-de-France whose population (about 100,000) accounts for one-third of that of Martinique, his political audience, conversely, does not predominate in the rural areas where his intellectual message has not always been understood.

The four other parliamentarians within the department belong to the majority and the autonomist movement is in the minority within a general council where, with the help of electoral laws, the majority holds 24 seats (11 moderate, majority, 10 RPR [Rally of the French People] and 3 UDF [French Democratic Union]) out of a total of 36.[3]

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1. Preface to the "Cahier d'un retour au pays natal" [Notes on Return to the Native Country]. Presence Africaine.

2. The PPM which claims to have a membership of 1,230 has some 40 "balisiers" (cells), some 30 of which in Fort-de-France.

3. The four other members of parliament in this department are the following: Claude Petit (RPR), Victor Sable (supports the UDF), deputies; Roger Lise (unregistered), and Edmond Valcin (RPR), senators.

Aime Cesaire himself has not escaped the controversies which characterize Martinican aspirations whenever political discussions requestion the fact that the island belongs to France.

He was the first, in 1946, as a communist representative at that time, to claim for Martinique the advantage of a departmental status which he has denounced since 1957. Some among the young blame him today for having, at that time, opted for integration with the French community after having been the champion of anticolonialism. "We were tricked," he answers them.

"Get Out"

Yet, for the first time, one of Aime Cesaire's political slogans seems to find general acceptance by the Martinican population: The denounciation of what he describes as "genocide by substitution." This is a shock formula which expresses violently the refusal to migrate to the mother country, a migration which is forced upon more and more Martinicans by the economic crisis--over 5,000 per year--whereas life in the sun and the salary privileges attracted to the "flower island" a growing number of people from the mother country. To Aime Cesaire this is a "vital" battle: "Departmentalization wrecked the economy of this country and now it is emptying it of its life forces. Emigration has been raised to the doctrinal level and, while Martinique is being emptied of Martinicans, it is filled with people coming from elsewhere."

The PPM campaign against the "genocide by substitution" was mounted following a decision taken by the party's national committee, by Camille Darsieres, a lawyer, general counsel, and leader of the autonomy system, on the occasion of the inauguration of the electoral campaign for cantonal elections, on 5 March 1979.

That day, in a "grave and pathetic appeal" addressed to the "Europeans," the PPM secretary general made a statement which had a great reverberation: "European friends (. . .), you cannot blame those who, seeing their fatherland vanish, shout that they wish to save it, with all their strength, souls, hearts. You should not consider racist the Martinicans who, constantly led, begin to shout at the world to apply a tourniquet. (. . .) Therefore, pack up your bags gently (. . .). Let us part as brothers while there is still time."

One week later, Darsieres was reelected, with the first ballot, general councilor of the second canton of Fort-de-France, garnering 6,811 votes as against 1,300 cast for the RPR candidate, his main opponent, whereas in 1973 he had been reelected on the second balloting with 4,786 votes as against 1,354 cast for Edmond Valcin, RPR senator. "I have never been so successfully reelected," emphasizes Darsieres.

The results encouraged the PPM in this campaign.

Today Martinique is experiencing a new political shock. Smiling, pleasant, sporting an elegant brown beard, Arthur Regis has been working with Amie Cesaire for 22 years. A dedicated member, and director of the PROGRESSISTE, the party organ, he was elected general councilor for the fourth canton of Fort-de-France in 1970, and reelected in 1976, after focusing his electoral campaigns on the rejection of forced emigration. His resignation as a general councilor, 21 January last, soundly thought out, surprised everyone, including his party whose leaders had not been informed of his intention (LE MONDE, 24 January).

In order to explain his decision, Regis made public a text even more virulent than that issued by Darsieres the previous year: "The method used to eliminate the Martinicans is extremely subtle and intelligent. It means acting in such a way that the Martinican can no longer find employment in his own country and, jobless, be forced to leave it. The target is about to be achieved, for millions of people from the mother country are already holding jobs here to which we should have absolute priority.

"While everything possible is being done to empty Martinique from its Martinicans, the French government is filling Martinique with Frenchmen. The more Frenchmen there are, the better they will become organized to expel, through terror, the Martinicans who would dare to resist. What the Nazis were unable to accomplish, i.e., the extermination of a nation, in that case the Jewish people, the French proved to be capable of doing it, to eliminate an entire people. It is thus that as a result of the landing of the French in this country the people of the Caribbeans were exterminated to the point that not a single one remains in Martinique (. . . .). Currently today, like yesterday in Algeria, they organize in "fraternities" of all sorts which, when the time comes, could regroup as another OAS which would terrorize the population, giving it the only alternative of "the suitcase or the coffin" (. . . .).

"Without unsparing struggle to stop dead this invasion, I do not see how the Martinicans, who are deprived of real political power, would be able to save Martinique for the future Martinican generations."

The shock caused by this spectacular resignation was made stronger by the fact that this 44-year-old technician does not enjoy the reputation of an undisciplined party member. The PPM leadership immediately issued a "public reprimand" demanding of him to engage in self-criticism for having violated party discipline. However, it did not condemn the statement in essence. Quite to the contrary, Regis received certain encouragement on the part of the population of Fort-de-France, many of whom saw in his gesture an act of political courage and intellectual honesty.

Supported by the communists and the supporters of independence, this campaign against the "soft exile" and the influx of people from the mother country is meeting, in fact, with a response within all social strata, ignoring political divisions. Actually, it would be difficult to know precisely what has been the change in the number of people from metropolitan France who have settled and are currently working in Martinique. Assessments range from 25,000 to 60,000.

It is thus that the beginning of a Neo-Poujadist current, hostile to the arrival of new metropolitan settlers, developed as a result of the effect of the PPM campaign in Fort-de-France. Among the young the emigration necessitated by the economic crisis is considered like a sophisticated form of the slave trade and the demand to "live in the country" assumes a political intensity which it does not have in the mother country.

Emphasizing a "multiplication of incidents" in schools "between Martinican students and metropolitan teachers and between Martinican and French teachers," the federation of the General Trade Union of National Education (SGEN) considers that they "cannot be separated from the press campaigns and mobilizations aimed against the "metros", specifically the "metro" government employees who are depicted as "colonial tourists," "job stealers," or "bonus chasers."

Unquestionably, the danger exists that in the fire of the forthcoming electoral campaigns the arguments of the autonomist movement headed by Aime Cesaire may lead to excesses and even to an antimetropolitan psychosis, regardless of the Martinican hospitality tradition. This is one of the reasons for which Rodolph Desire, leader of the autonomist group of Marin, and former leader of the nationalist association of Martinican students, has left the party whose deputy secretary general he was. "The PPM has become xenophobic. This is dangerous and unworthy of leftist people and it is following the way desired by the government in an effort to discredit its opponents," he said. "In a multisocial country discrimination problems must be taken up with extreme caution."

"Those who accuse us of racism are distorting our positions," retorted Darsieres. "Actually, a certain hypocracy is being displayed by a segment of the Martinican intelligentsia by labeling us racists, whereas it is the first to protest when its interests are affected by the presence of metropolitans," the secretary general of the autonomist group added.

According to Darsieres, the "Arthur Regis explosion is an important event, for it reveals the confusion of the Martinican people and their psychological trauma. It is a manifestation of a feeling of powerlessness on the part of our country backed against the wall. We have reached the crossroads."

As to Regis, he has chosen his way: At the next PPM congress, to be held in two sections, the 28-29 June and 5-6 July, he will propose a new political strategy, specifically aimed at "internationalizing the problem of decolonization of Martinique" and to study "the possibility for the creation of an Antilles-Guyana liberation front. When I was elected general councilor," he explains calmly, "I still believed that a dialogue with the French government was possible. For a number of years, however, we have been trying to break the door of a safe with our fists. We must try to find the key, which we have not accomplished so far, or else blow up the safe. I have become a revolutionary. In order to resolve the Martinican problem, the Martinicans have the right to use all possible means."

Regis's attitude also challenges Aime Cesaire who has remained the supporter of an autonomy status, even though, eventually, Martinican independence is, in his view, not to be questioned. Would the moderating influence of the mayor of Fort-de-France take the upper hand yet once again? Asked, the old fighter voices his concern as follows: "Dialogue is no longer possible since the government absolutely denies that a Martinican political problem exists. Therefore, it has created an impasse and is triggering violence on the part of those who feel themselves backed against the wall. A racial tension is the result of this feeling of powerlessness which could result in acts of desperation. Anything could happen at any time."

Aime Cesaire spoke at length about his "illusions," following the liberation, the generosity of the "enlightened men" who fought slavery, the rights of the citizens, Voltaire, Rousseau, and Victor Hugo. . . with a great deal of bitterness and some nostalgia. Yet, who is still listening to the humanists?

"A Threatened Nation"

According to INSEE statistics, Martinican migration is characterized by a growing deficit, i.e., by a number of departures ever more exceeding that of arrivals. This deficit rose from 1,750 in 1962 to 5,345 in 1968, 6,671 in 1976, 6,804 in 1977, and 6,921 in 1978.

On a parallel basis, the birth rate has been dropping. The number of births which totaled 10,749 in 1965 was only 6,741 in 1975 and 5,065 in 1978.

"The Martinican people have had their human biological vitality hit," notes Aime Cesaire. They are an endangered people."

[7 Mar 80 p 8]

II. The Battle of Fort-de-France

The campaign waged by the autonomists against "forced emigration" to the mother country is creating in

> Martinique a political tension which has been accentuated by the spectacular resignation of Arthur Regis, an influential member of the PPM who gave up his mandate as general councilor to protest the "invasion" of the island by "the French" (LE MONDE, 6 March).

Fort-de-France. For the majority representatives supporting the departmental option, and fiercely hostile to any change in the status which, in their view, would risk to make Martinique on the path to independence, Fort-de-France is the autonomist citadel. It is an unbearable wart which they have vainly tried to eliminate ever since Aime Cesaire launched his nationalistic crusade in 1957. For quite some time they could not touch him. A living legend, the mayor of Fort-de-France was a taboo.

Today the strategy of the majority is to try to prove that even though Aime Cesaire may be a noted man of ideas, he is not infallible in his political and municipal orientations or in the choice of his assistants in charge of applying his directives in the course of his travels to the mother country.

The campaign of the PPM against "genocide by substitution" bothers the RPR and UDF representatives who cannot oppose it directly since it is a question of a popular topic going beyond political divisions.

Unable to support the governmental concept presented by Paul Dijoud, secretary of state for the DOM-TOM [Overseas Departments and Territories], according to which emigration is not only inevitable but also "a privilege" for the young people of the Antilles (LE MONDE, 18 September 1979), they are emphasizing its xenophobic nature when facing people from the mother country and accuse the autonomists of having chosen this weapon for reasons of electoral demagogy.

Emile Maurice (RPR), chairman of the general council and mayor of Saint Joseph, former assistant of Aime Cesaire, goes even further: He blames the PPM for inciting the Martinicans to oppose emigration for the sake of increasing the number of jobless in the island and, therefore, increase the social pension which has already reached a critical level. "Bearing in mind the job crisis caused by economic difficulties, emigration is a safety valve," says he. "Eliminating it, one risks an explosion. That is precisely what the subversive forces wish, in their desire to trigger a major upset."

The RPR seems concerned with putting a distance between itself and the government's economic policy before the next elections. On the occasion of the colloquium which it will sponsor in Martinique from 2 to 4 May, the Gaullist movement will emphasize the fact that emigration can be no more than a temporary "palliative," and will suggest, specifically, that instead of "paying unemployment compensations which are lost or aid

which is a total loss," the government should use the same funds to create jobs.

Three Thousand Municipal Employees

For the time being, the majority try, above all, to exploit the financial difficulties of the municipality of Fort-de-France, enhanced by the fact that it is putting pressure on one of the sensitive aspects of the autonomist movement. In effect, ever since they have been running the city, Aime Cesaire and his companions have tried to make their management of the municipality a model one in order to present to the Martinican population a specific image of their ability to assume the power should the status change. In order to reach this objective they have increased the number of projects considered public works and social activities and, developing self-management, have set up several municipal agencies (roads, buildings, operation of a quarry, technical services, etc.), which has turned the municipality into one of the biggest enterprises in the department. The municipal council has also made it a point of honor to contribute to the struggle against unemployment by providing jobs to a goodly number of people. To such a point that Fort-de-France numbers today close to 3,000 municipal employees, 2,000 of whom are full-time and 2,000 [sic] "part-timers" paid by the job. At one point, at the end of last year, the municipality's personnel expenditures reached 140 million francs or 60.74 percent of its budget (270 million francs) and it found itself virtually unable to meet the payroll.

Forced to take financial recovery measures, the PPM leaders were forced to stop this policy by dismissing about 100 "temporary" workers while the regular employees had to agree to salary reductions and the other "temporaries" accepted a reduction in the number of work hours and the organization of a rotation employment system.

The members of the majority immediately jumped on this occasion which they had been long awaiting charging the municipality of having recruited such a large number of municipal employees for the sole purpose of acquiring a "electoral manpower mass" and thus engage in "waste."

Max Elize, Giscardian general counselor of the first canton in Fort-de-France, believes that the autonomist leaders in the city wanted "to do too much, becoming heads of enterprises and assuming all functions while lacking the necessary technical competence to properly manage some

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4. The monthly request for jobs, which cannot be met, has been steadily rising. According to the INSEE it was 4,178 in 1977, 6,177 in the first half of 1978, 9,791 in the second half of 1978 and 11,226 in the first half of 1979. The unemployment rate in Martinique is over 20 percent of the active population.

important projects." "Had the experience been successful," he added, "they would have proved the uselessness of the state." Pierre Aliker, first deputy mayor and vice president of the PPM answers all such criticism with serenity: "The municipality deliberately used all its possibilities to alleviate, to the extent that it could, the situation of some Martinicans condemned to unemployment as the result of governmental policy and, when forced to shorten the working time, it did it in such a way that no employee would lose social security benefits. The proof that we acted regardless of electoral concerns is that most of the municipal employees live outside Fort-de-France."

Aliker's reply was to question the attitude of the authorities and of the general council: "War is waged against us for supporting autonomy. The state systematically refuses to assume the financial burden incumbent upon it. For example, we were forced to pay for 40 percent of the correction of the Madame River, which runs through the city, whereas this is a navigable waterway and, therefore, the responsibility for this project falls on the state. We have also entirely assumed the cost of the restoration of the cathedral. The cost of the operation was 16.2 million francs and all the state contributed was 1.96 percent. We are currently building an administrative center at the cost of 38 million francs, entirely at our expense. The general council is not granting us the precise share coming to us from the sea polls.[5] Whereas we should have received at least 30 percent, we received only 28.78 percent in 1978 and 28.01 percent in 1979, all this for political reasons."

The president of the general council objects. "I deny such claims," says Emile Maurice. "The Fort-de-France municipality has at its disposal over two-thirds of the department's direct taxes even though it represents only one-third of the population. The general council is giving Fort-de-France its just share, considering that a collective should participate in the solidarity activities which we deem necessary to benefit the less prosperous municipalities. As to some achievements such as the building of the administrative center, the PPM has created a confusion, for the general council does not have to take part in this kind of construction. The truth is that the municipality is to be blamed for its poor management with catastrophic results."

Recalling the "terrible noise" triggered in Fort-de-France by Arthur Regis's resignation, Didier Julia, director of the PPM daily, deputy representing the Seine-et-Marne, and head of RPR mission for the DOM, wrote the following in the 1 February edition of LETTRE DE LA NATION: "The only really new event which took place is that, for the first time in the history of an autonomist municipality, the municipal personnel

5. The sea tolls system instituted under Napoleon III, allows the general councils of the DOM to levy taxes on all imported products.

went on strike, that same personnel which has been so quantitatively inflated by the hiring of gardeners and maintenance men that, at one point, one could have thought that Aime Cesaire had decided to resolve once and for all the unemployment problem through the creation of a large number of unproductive administrative jobs!"

Several days previously, passing through Martinique, Julia had compared the mayor of Fort-de-France to Ayatollah Khomeyni.

The municipality hopes to defeat this offensive by straightening up its financial situation in 1980. "We experienced a temporary situation but we shall come out of it," claims Aliker. "The municipal employees understand perfectly that there are no other solutions, and we have no difficulties whatever in dealing with lending agencies." The anticipated Fort-de-France 1980 budget is 250 million francs, as compared with 270 million in 1979. This drop will correspond, essentially, to a reduction of operational costs.

The Trade Union Arm of the Independists

In its Fort-de-France battle with the PPM the majority has found objective allies among the independists. Actually, many of them are municipal employees supporters of The People's Word Independist Movement, headed by Alfred Marie Jeanne, general councilor and mayor of Riviere-Pilote. They have opposed and gone on strike against the municipality. They accomplished this as members of a trade union section supporting the Trade Union Confederation of Martinican Workers (CSTM), founded in 1976 by Frantz Agasta, an extraordinary personality.

Sixty-two years old, with thinning white hair topping a thin face, self-educated and a powerful speaker, this former accountant rallied the independists four years ago and is working within it today so ardently as to give the impression that he is trying to catch up the time he believes to have lost as secretary general of FO [Workers Force] in Martinique.

He has a firm audience among the island's workers by emphasizing in his trade union concerns the defense of the dignity of the workers and by using very practical methods to "convince" reluctant employers, as a result of which he is now charged with "sequestration" and "verbal threats." Having achieved several trade union successes through this maximalist attitude, Agasta rapidly became the recourse and the spokesman of workers and employees, and even of Martinican cadres who are facing difficulties in having their claims met. It also encourages some trade union members of the other organization within the department, the General Confederation of Martinican Workers (CGTM) to change affiliations. That is what happened in the insurance sector, the majority of whose personnel broke with the CGTM in December 1978, considering it too soft,

and joined the CSTM. Agasta, who was at the origin of the main trade union demonstrations organized in the course of recent months in Martinique--specifically that of Monday, 21 January (LE MONDE, 23 January), can boast today of being able to paralyze Fort-de-France in a few hours.

Through his determination and intransigence, the secretary general of the CSTM enjoys great superiority over those who come to seek his aid.

At Trade Union House, his office is open to everyone, a meeting place for anyone with a claim. "Frantz Agasta is our God on earth. He helps us to understand things," said Mrs. Myriane T. . . . , a beautiful 31-year-old woman. Her five companions nodded approvingly. They are insurance workers and have been striking since the beginning of January, asking for higher salaries. They earn about 2,100 francs per month after 10 years of seniority on the job. Only a few weeks ago some among them had only heard of Agasta. Today, angry at their employers, they claim to be ready to follow "any slogan." They also unreservedly accept the independist step taken by the CSTM. "When they came to see me," Agasta explains, "I told them what I always make clear from the beginning: My policy is one of the liberation of Martinique. Your situation will not change as long as you remain under French rule. I also add the following: Think carefully, for Agasta may ask you one day to take up arms." The young women agreed: "Yes, he told this the very first time." Myriane T. adds the following: "Before this strike I was not involved in politics. Now, however, I have learned a great deal of things thanks to Mr. Agasta. Violence is not desirable but, should France be unwilling to leave, we would be forced to take up arms." "I take the risk of pouring oil on the fire," concluded the leader of the CSTM. "To make an omelet you must break eggs."

As the trade union arm of the independists, Agasta is also anti-parliamentarian. He has become one of the most virulent opponents of Aime Cesaire. In the presence of the visiting journalist he likes to read out loud, to sum up his thoughts, what he had written in November 1977 in SIMAO, his weekly, on the subject of the mayor of Fort-de-France:

"The time has come to no longer philosophize in the abstract sterility of words, but to be prepared to convert to specific and decisive action. Actually, in order to not freeze in a myth, all ideology must give birth to its own reality (. . .). The Martinican who claims to be a man in the most developed meaning of the term no longer has any choice (. . .). When life is reduced to nothing, death is no longer evil, particularly when a nation is condemned to trade its dignity for degrading poverty, whereas through its own toil it should earn universal respect (. . .). Its only hope to free itself from the yoke of its oppressor is to unite, as was the case in Algeria and Vietnam, within a national liberation front."

This virulence became even greater with the strike of the municipal employees.

Like the majority, the independist trade union movement is, therefore, trying to discredit Aime Cesaire. Economic difficulties are providing good grounds for the development of such ideas. Its middle and long-term target, nevertheless, is entirely different since, in fact, it is a question of helping to destabilise Fort-de-France politically to the benefit of the extreme revolutionary left.

[8 Mar 80 p 18]

III. The Uncertainties of the Post-Cesaire Period

> The autonomist municipality of Fort-de-France, headed by Aime Cesaire, a deputy supporting the socialists, has been the target of converging criticism on the part of the representatives of the majority and the independists, the latter acting through the CSTM (LE MONDE, 6 and 7 March).

Fort-de-France. The defendant is smiling like someone who has already seen and heard quite a lot in his lifetime. In effect, Howard T. Robinson is not a novice in diplomacy. This big man with an open expression, with a thin black moustache, impeccably dressed, has been in charge of the United States Consulate in Fort-de-France only since 1978. However, he had previously represented his country in a number of Asian countries, for 14 years, and in Africa for six. Yet, he is eloquent when asked why, in his view, Didier Julia, the Seine-et-Marne deputy, in charge of the RPR mission for overseas departments, accused him, on 3 January, in Paris, of "subsidizing" the activities of Martinican autonomists (LE MONDE, 5 January). "I am 53 years old and have 20 years of service. It is the first time that I have come across this kind of a problem," he says. He is convinced that "this French deputy" whom he has never met, was not thinking straight that particular day.

True, as a consul, Mr Robinson has paid for several trips taken by a variety of Martinican and Guadalupian personalities so that they could "acquire a better knowledge" of the United States. However, he emphasizes, this is a matter of "routine programs" which are part of the traditional activities of any consulate within the framework of diplomatic and cultural or commercial agreements between the American government and other countries.

Robinson gave us a list containing the names of 13 people (businessmen, teachers, artists, politicians. . .) who have benefited from such aid since his arrival in Martinique. We come across two names which Julia had cited to support his statements: Jean-Paul Cesaire, one of the sons of the mayor of Fort-de-France, director of the cultural activities municipal service (Sermac) (invited in September 1978), and Arthur Regis, director of the PROGRESSISTE, the organ of the Martinican progress party

(invited in September 1979). However, the list also includes the name of Joe Sainte-Rose, secretary general of the Martinican federation of the republican party, invited in October 1978, along with Yves Luber, director general of Solrima (Refrigeration Company of Martinique), who was the RPR candidate for Macouba in the March 1977 municipal elections, and who was defeated by the outgoing communist mayor.

The United States consul, therefore, believes that Julia was "misinformed" when he voiced his charge. The municipality considered that the mission head of the RPR was, above all, "fully advised" by Michel Renard, general councilor and mayor of Marigot, departmental secretary of the Gaullist group, and former opponent of Aime Cesaire for the 1978 legislative elections. Together with Julia he had organized the famous 3 January press conference.

As far as he is concerned, Aime Cesaire claims to be willing, on behalf of the PPM, "to prosecute for defamation the instigators of the beginning of this campaign of slanders."

A Combat Weapon

The Gaullists are irked, above all, by the fact that, coming back from the United States, last November, Arthur Regis had boasted of having accepted the consul's invitation to explain to the Americans "the genocide by substitution of the Martinican people," and to "make them aware of the struggle for liberation waged by the Martinican nation." Jean-Paul Cesaire had, in turn, established numerous contacts which he subsequently used in his Sermac activities. The cultural action municipal service is one of the trumps in the nationalist action of the PPM.

Organized in February 1976, in the premises of an old military hospital built at the request of Napoleon III, to meet the needs of the Mexican War, this cultural center contains 12 research and creativity workshops (theater, design, plastic arts, dance, music, audio-visual, geology, etc.), some of whose productions are of excellent quality thanks to the efforts and training provided by 52 instructors, all of them municipal employees. It can present its performances in an enclosed auditorium for 2,000 people and is coordinating the activities of 14 joint cultural branches in the various populace districts of the suburbs.

Under the dynamic guidance of Jean-Paul Cesaire, 40, doctor of law, the group is a remarkable political combat weapon in the cultural domain. Specifically, in four years, Sermac has made 17 motion pictures for the membership (15 are 16 mm films and two full features). Its latest creation--a ballet--is the "fictional" history of the "physical elimination" of the Martinican population of African origin with the help of a "wave of invaders coming out of the cold," implementing a "forced migration plan organized on a broad scale in the direction of the European continent . . . "

The manager of the center also uses a panel truck equipped with audio-visual facilities to provide "counter information" in the city in answer to the "pressure of the departmentalist assimilationists who benefit from all the official communications facilities, beginning with the daily FRANCE-ANTILLES (of the Robert Hersant group) and FR II. Furthermore, through the organization of a number of international festivals, involving the participation of Cuban, North American, Porto Rican, and African artists, for the past four years they have helped to promote autonomy topics abroad. All these activities have enjoyed great success among the population.

Sermac has never concealed its objectives: "We want to play the role of a cultural beacon in the Antilles to the detriment of those who consider Martinique as merely a French show window for the two Americas," said Jean-Paul Cesaire. "We are engaged in an action of cultural counter-alienation to oppose the environmental aggressions developed by the colonizer. This fight, obviously, is paralleling political action." In the case of Aime Cesaire, who has always wanted to be an "awakener of consciences," this multi-political enterprise is "the basis of everything." The mayor of Fort-de-France considers it more important since this cultural center is, in his view, "one of the last chances for preserving the identity of the Antilles."

Faced with these initiatives, Mr Julia's reaction is an expression of the exasperation of the extreme departmentalists who do not accept the fact that Paris should tolerate the official interest which the American consul in Martinique displays in the PPM nationalists. It is clear to the Gaullists that the American government is betting, in the long run, on the autonomy of the French Antilles and, therefore, is concerned, for the immediate future, for whatever that may serve, to maintain "the best possible links" with Aime Cesaire's supporters.

The Arlesienne

This new event in the battle of Fort-de-France fought between the majority and the PPM illustrates yet another aspect of the Martinican question: the permanent and ostensible presence of the United States in the Caribbean, aimed at counterbalancing the Cuban ideological influence.

General councilor Max Elize (UDF) believes, nevertheless, that Julia is accomplishing nothing: "One should not be indignant but think lucidly; the attitude of the United States is honest. The United States as well has chosen to fight the political combat on the cultural ground as does Cuba." He emphasizes the need to block the Cubans "at the time when the upsurge of the cold war will have its effect on relations in the Caribbean."

Fidel Castro, the leader of the Cuban revolution, is somewhat like the Arlesienne of the two French departments of the Antilles. In Martinique, as in Guadalupe, all political circles are mentioning it, particularly his opponents, even though the presence of his sympathizers is very small and, in any case, discreet.

"We must be vigilant," claims Emile Maurice (RPR), president of the general council. We must not consider that the question of the status of Martinique has been settled. The broad majority of the population remains linked with the French group and wishes integration. However, one could not say that the danger is past. I believe that there will be resurgences of independist actions and that this danger remains latent."

Within the departmental assembly, the majority representatives regret that the government has not officially protested the statements made by Fidel Castro last October, in Havana, at the conference of nonalined countries. After the Cuban leader had proclaimed his support "for the anticolonial struggle waged by the peoples of Guadalupe and Martinique," the presidency of the general council postponed sine die a visit which a delegation of representatives was to pay to Cuba at the end of February to study problems related to sugarcane cultivation.

In turn, the United States consul has not noticed any sign of increased Havana influence on the island. Mr Robinson emphasizes that the Cubans "are handicapped by not speaking French" and lacking "the same lifestyle" as the Martinicans or the Guadalupians, which does not facilitate contacts. "France is here far stronger than it thinks," says he.

Conversely, there is one person who would love to see the Cubans land in Martinique with arms and property. He is Alfred Marie-Jeanne, general councilor, mayor of Riviere-Pilote, 43, teacher of mathematics. His passion is sports. When he is not to be found in his office or the school, you could be certain to find him at the stadium of the Racing Club of Riviere-Pilote where, twice weekly, he runs the length of the track twice and enages in calisthenics. His sole obsession is the "liberation" of his native island, for which he is struggling as the head of the Independent Martinican Movement (MIM).

As far as he is concerned, all autonomists, whether member of the PPM or the Martinican Communist Party (PCM) are merely "electoralists" and "reformists." "We believe that it is not through elections that we will be able to seize the power," says he. "However, we are using the general council and the mayoralties to wage our struggle for revolutionary unity within the Caribbean continent. Naturally, we need the help of the other countries. It matters little whether it is Cuba or the USSR! I blame the fraternal countries who are not helping the others to come out of this situation. Had my country been big enough I would not be here to receive journalists. I mean by this that I would have already gone

underground. Our revolutionary movement does not reject any solution, even that of the force of arms."

The MIM, whose most active groups are in Riviere-Pilote, Riviere-Sale, Prinite, and Fort-de-France, intends "to set up a process of action and organization which would result in a national convention which would realine the 'district' delegates and in the course of which the Martinican people would vote in favor of a separation from France and for the structures of the Martinican nation."

Actually, the Martinican Communist Party alone, which has had difficulties in expanding, following the founding of the PPM, regularly maintains official relations with Cuba. "Ever since the Cuban revolution we have maintained very good contacts with the Cubans, very close ones," states Armand Nicolas, its secretary general. "However, when the government becomes worried, it is merely waving a scarecrow. Actually, France maintains normal commercial relations with Cuba. I do not see how Cuba could export its revolution in Martinique without a revolutionary base." The links between the PCM and Havana explain, furthermore, the fact that the Martinican communists have joined the Gaullists in their accusations of an alleged collusion between the United States consul in Fort-de-France and Aime Cesaire's party. "The PPM has fallen into a trap," considers Nicolas, "for the United Stated find all opportunism useful. They do not play a disinterested game, and here they are betting on what seems to them to be the winning force."

The communists also criticize the municipal management of the autonomist representatives in Fort-de-France. Despite its predominant position in the Martinican capital and the reverberation of its latest initiatives, the PPM thus seems politically isolated. Both the right and the extreme left seem to be already speculating on the uncertainties to follow Cesaire.

Commenting on the decision made by Arthur Regis, director of the organ of the nationalist party of resigning his mandate as general councilor, and his subsequent statements, Guy Cabort-Masson, an influential member of the independist movement, stated several days ago in NAIF, the independent weekly, that "the question of Cesaire's legacy has been raised. What is interesting is that Cesaire should be forced to make a statement on his legacy in his lifetime. Cesaire's legacy could follow three separate ways. Should Cesaire die in France, he would be salvaged by France who will turn him into another Schoelcher, with a commemorative address by the prefect, surrounded by the crown of familiar mercenaries."[6]

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6. Victor Schoelcher, deputy representing Guadeloupe and Martinique, helped to adopt in February 1848 the decree abolishing definitively slavery in the French colonies.

Cesaire could be claimed by the autonomists, i.e., by the right wing faction of the PPM which is an expert in compromises. Finally, Cesaire could be claimed by the independist revolution. Following is the question asked by Regis: "Mr Cesaire, you must choose, while there is still time, between reaction and the revolution which you are unable to guide in your time. Should Cesaire fail to answer, should he fail to state that the future of his accomplishments is to follow the Regis line, it would mean that he died while still alive."

"The PPM will come out strengthened from its current trials," answers Arthur Regis. "One thing is certain however: The government still has a very good opportunity for achieving the change softly, as long as Cesaire is here. Should it miss this opportunity, I am certain that a cycle of violence and counterviolence will break out."

[10 Mar 80 p 7]

IV. The Government Would Like To Stop the "Rot"

> The development of the political situation in Martinique has triggered a number of uncertainties concerning the future of the autonomist movement whose leaders fear that the "after-Cesaire" era may be marked by increasing violence should the government fail to modify the status of the island as long as the moderating influence of the mayor of Fort-de-France remains predominant (LE MONDE, 6, 7, and 8 March).

Fort-de-France. Masses of flowers and chirping birds everywhere. The Petit-Paradis district, on the heights of the Fort-de-France suburb, well deserves its name. It is here that lives Claude Lise, 39, MD, nominated by the PPM to fill the seat of the fourth canton, left vacant by the spectacular resignation of Arthur Regis, director of the party's weekly.

The man is tall, slender, with an open mespisso face, with a small black moustache. His ascetic features strangely resemble those of Houari Boumediene. A Samurai sword, finely chiseled, and two wooden practice swords are clearly visible in his living room. Lise has long been a practitioner of aikido and, unquestionably, it is the exercise of this martial art that accounts for his litheness.

In politics, in any case, he fears no one: Since the cantonal elections of 1973 he has challenged, a number of times, in his own district, on behalf of the opposition, the "boss" of the active Gaullists, Michel Renard, the mayor of Marigot. He has never won but has gained a great reputation for political courage. The PPM had nominated him for the first canton of Fort-de-France in the cantonal elections of March 1979, against Max Elize (UDF) who had won on the fourth ballot with 807 against 455.

In the populace districts of the immediate Fort-de-France suburbs, Claude Lise is also waging a campaign on the theme of "genocide by substitution." However, he asks his listeners not to plunge into anti-mother country racism, and emphasizes that "the people of the mother country are, mostly, the unconscious instruments of governmental policy."

Unlike Regis, Lise is a newcomer in the PPM, for he joined it after the March 1978 legislative elections, taking with him the majority of the members of the Martinican Socialist Party (PSM) which he had founded in July 1977 and whose secretary general he was. Henceforth, he represents the socialist current within Aime Cesaire's nationalist and autonomist party.

That is the reason for which this former Mitterrand supporter was assigned by the PPM national council to draft for the June-July congress a "plan for a socialist society for Martinique."

Attacked on the right by the departmentalist majority, which accuses it of wanting to break the ties with France, and harassed by the communists and by the minute Trotskyite groups and the independists who accuse it of the opposite, and torn within its own group by the youngest members who are putting pressure on Aime Cesaire to become more active in his fight for total decolonization, the party's leadership, in fact, determined that the time had come to specify the content of its political plan.

A Plan for Self-Management

The preamble of its text, currently reviewed by the various balisiers,[7] Claude Lise wrote, specifically, that "the demand for a change in status is gaining grounds progressively," but that "it is still powerfully restrained by the fear of a leap into the unknown." Therefore, he adds, one must answer the questions of the Martinicans who would like to know "what type of society will there be in a Martinique managed by the Martinicans themselves?"

Referring both to the doctrines of the PSU and the SERES, Claude Lise calls for the organization of a self-management society which, eventually, would lead "not only to the disappearance of private ownership of productive capital but of private ownership of power." And, in order to "prepare the workers for their march to self-management," the former secretary general of the PSM suggests to the PPM four guidelines:

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7. Name given to the PPM cells.

"1) Devote a major effort to the level of awareness of the masses and, above all, the training of the members;

"2) To play an original role in the daily struggles by giving priority to the struggles for the acquisition of partial power as compared with conventional claims, such as: creation of consumers' committees demanding control over or, at least, a right to take a look at the management of some agencies (radio and television, schools, medical and social services, public transportation, urban services), demand for a land reform suitable to Martinique, etc.;

"3) Favor the development of associations. The purpose of all this would be to raise the stakes of the class struggle and develop a real teaching of responsibility and make the workers aware in their minds and practices of the new requirements which could be met on a real and permanent basis only within the framework of the future socialist society;

"4) Introduce within the party structures and its management the principles which form the base of a self-managing society: total democracy; widespread information at all levels; rotation of assignments and responsibilities.

"The party should be, in a way, a show window for socialism," the speaker concluded, "for it is according to the image it will present of itself in daily life that this plan for a society it puts forth will become more or less credible and attractive to the masses."

It appears, therefore, as of now, that the forthcoming PPM congress will have to debate two different intellectual steps which are not necessarily contradictory: the self-management socialist plan submitted by Claude Lise, with its long-term targets, and the short-term nationalist plan submitted by Arthur Regis who plans to submit the problem of Martinique to international agencies and trigger in the island a permanent series of rotating strikes in order to "tirelessly harass the colonial system, better to bring it down."

Differences With the Communists

The socialist self-management step taken by the former PSM secretary general is not, it appears, of a kind to favor a rapprochement between the PPM and the communist autonomists within the PCM. In effect, Mr Lise's plan refuses to "cover with a veil of modesty" the "negative aspects of the familiar socialist experiences," and, specifically, the "suppression of freedoms" in the USSR, while sparing Cuba, considered by the speaker as "the most human socialist system."

The communists, whose slogan is "democratic and people' autonomy," hold the PPM liable for the split of the left. In its draft resolution to its Seventh Congress, to be held on 12 and 13 April, the PCM Central Committee "notes

that today a number of differences exist between it and the PPM on important problems (cost of living allowances, struggle for workers' immediate claims, layoffs, relations with the imperialistic government of the United States, etc).

"Therefore, no conditions exist as yet for real and effective unity for the sum total of basic questions," the statement goes on to say. "An overall association with the PPM would mean now to accept and support some of its positions which our party deems contrary to the interests of the workers and the country; it would confuse the minds of the masses."

The PCM calls for unity action "on a case for case" basis. Its members, very few of whom are in Fort-de-France, waged a very active campaign over the past few weeks in the agricultural areas of the department, denouncing the conditions under which the Bekes[8] were compensated after their banana plantations were destroyed last summer by hurricanes David and Frederic (LE MONDE, 20 February).

In turn, the various trade union associations intend to issue soon a new slogan calling for a general strike similar to the one of last October, during the third interregional conference of the Antilles and Guyana, chaired by Paul Dijoud. They believe that the negotiations which were started at the beginning of December with the representatives of the secretary of state on the sum total of economic and social problems of the island are not progressing sufficiently rapidly. The trade union leaders believe that the government "is trying to drag things out until the presidential election of 1981."

Economic crisis, political outbidding within the opposition, racial incidents, social tensions caused by the activism of the independist trade union (CSTM), resentment of the electorate supporting the majority in the face of governmental policy in general and the attitude of Paul Dijoud, in particular, ever since the secretary of state for the DOM-TOM turned everyone unanimously against him, after having daringly denounced the salary privileges of overseas officials, benefiting from the fiscal advantages of high earning officials, and the monopoly of import-export companies, all this has created in Martinique an atmosphere of ever growing malaise. Today the word in the offices of the secretary of state is "rot."

Accused by the RPR of criminal slackness, Paul Dijoud decided to react by drafting an "intervention plan" aimed at "putting a stop" to the activities of the autonomists and independists. The "plan" was inspired, on behalf of the Gaullist movement, by Didier Julia, deputy from Seine-et-Marne, in charge of the RPR mission for the DOM, Camille Petit, deputy from the first electoral district in the island, and Michel Renard, in the course of an exchange of views which took place the evening of Wednesday, 6 February, in Paris.

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8. White defendants of the colonists.

The circumstances in which this meeting took place illustrate, actually, the animosity which prevails among the local representatives of the RPR and Mr Dijoud.

The members of the bureau of the Martinican Gaullist Federation were passing through Paris. The secretary of state had expressed the wish to talk with them. However, Renard and his friends had declined the invitation. Conversely, the RPR representatives had let it be known that they would not refuse an exchange of views, providing that Dijoud would agree to come to them. It was thus that the meeting took place on neutral grounds, in a Parisian restaurant, on the invitation of Julia and Renard. Dijoud was accompanied by two of his assistants. The discussion was quite lively and the Gaullists blamed their host for his desire to "break the RPR."

Finally, the two parties agreed on a modus vivendi, according to which the two currents within the majority would, henceforth, dampen their rivalries, notably for the forthcoming partial cantonal election, in order to make a common front against the opposition parties before the presidential election of 1981.[9] Raising the fears solemnly expressed by his interlocutors, Dijoud pledged to display greater firmness against "the forces of subversion." The "intervention plan" suggested by the RPR was accepted by the secretary of state. It has a twin target: Destroy the attempts to destabilize orchestrated by the independists, acting within the trade union center of Martinican workers (CSTM), headed by Frantz Agasta, and answer the PPM campaign waged against "genocide by substitution." According to the RPR, as indicated by a letter dated 13 February, sent by Renard to Dijoud, as a conclusion to the 6 February exchange of views, the secretary of state should instruct the prefect to sternly suppress, on the one hand, all attempts at labor freedom and, on the other any incitement to racial discrimination against people coming from the mother country. Julia personally spoke with Giscard d'Estaing of the need to "regain the upper hand" of the situation by mid-February.

"The Cuban Influence"

"Exceptional measures" would be taken to insure "the defense of the freedom of speech" in the course of the forthcoming electoral campaign in the fourth canton of Fort-de-France.

Both the police and general security would be asked to tighten up their surveillance to prevent the "strengthening of Cuban influence" denounced by the RPR. Finally, the government would put the electoral lists of

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9. The UDF and the RPR will have a "primary" on the occasion of the partial cantonal election in Fort-de-France. The Giscardian candidate will be Joe Sainte-Rose, departmental secretary of the PR, while the Gaullists will submit the candidacy of Mrs Aime Populo.

Fort-de-France under the control of the [illegible] and would agree that the agenda of the spring session of the National Assembly include the draft law submitted in May 1978 by Camille Petit which would make mandatory the computerizing of electoral lists in cities of over 30,000 people. In effect, the RPR and Dijoud are accusing the autonomist leaders of engaging in electoral fraud at each balloting. It is claimed by the retinue of the secretary of state for the DOM-TOM that Dijoud, having displayed "a great deal of patience" is today resolved, together with the Elysee Palace, not to tolerate "any illegality" on the part of the members of the Martinican opposition.

Convinced that the 1981 presidential election will confirm, yet once again, despite the autonomist slogans, the fact that the Martinican population is attached to France, the secretary of state has stated to [illegible] willing to assume all the risks which the application of this shock treatment would inevitably entail in a department where all political and economic problems have always contained a passional explosive charge.

Playing with fire, the government is placing, in this case, a dangerous bet.

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10. In December 1959 the disturbances which took place in Fort-de-France had begun as a result of an ordinary traffic accident pitting a white against a black. They had resulted in three dead and numerous wounded.

[illegible]

INVESTMENT IN PETROLEUM SECTOR TO BE REDUCED

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 10 Mar 80 p 6

[Text] Once domestic demand has been met and an export base achieved, investments in the petroleum sector will decrease in the 3-year period from 1980 to 1982, and public investment will rise in priority areas such as farming and livestock, forestry, education, health care and transportation.

According to statistics from the Secretariat of Programming and Budget, the average real growth rate of investment in the farm and forestry sectors (which are essential in turning growth into development) for the above period will climb to 20 percent, a substantial boost over the 13.5 percent during the period from 1965 to 1976.

Investments in education and health care, which are directly tied to the goal of providing our people with minimum levels of well-being, will be given a decisive push by taking advantage of the funds that we will be able to divert from the petroleum sector. By 1982 these investments should make up close to 16 percent of total investment, as compared to less than 13 percent in 1979.

As far as transportation is concerned, public investment will rise at a real average annual rate of 20 percent over the next 3 years, in order to unclog the bottlenecks that have formed in our transportation system.

In the services sphere, much more support will be given to a number of basic programs, outstanding among which is the introduction of drinking water in rural communities, the goal being to provide service to 15 million inhabitants. In addition, a large number of smaller towns will be integrated through an extensive network of rural roads.

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CHIAPAS-TABASCO PRODUCTION GROWTH DESCRIBED

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] Daily production of crude oil and gas liquids hit 2.0009 million barrels of petroleum yesterday, PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum] has announced, terming the development historic. This is a 122 percent increase over the 900,000 barrels a day that were extracted at the outset of the current administration.

The current output of slightly more than 2 million barrels a day is four times greater than the highest yearly production before the nationalization of the petroleum industry, when 520,856 barrels were produced in 1921, and almost 20 times greater than output for the year of the nationalization, 1938, with 106,351 barrels a day. This indicates the stunning progress that the nationalized industry has made.

The mounting output has been achieved through the development of the Mesozoic area in Chiapas-Tabasco, which currently furnishes 1.03 million barrels a day, and through the incorporation of production from the Gulf of Campeche, which now stands at 455,000 barrels a day (25,000 more than 3 days ago).

To all this we can add the output from other fields in the southern and northern parts of the country, all of which has entailed signifi- ant human efforts in technical matters and in industrial planning that is unprecedented in Mexico and that has occurred very seldom elsewhere.

Our current output also makes us the world's ninth largest producer, on a level with China and Libya and very close to Venezuela, Kuwait and Nigeria.

We currently furnish close to 3 percent of worldwide output, as compared to 18 percent for the Soviet Union, 14 percent for the United States, and 49 percent for the OPEC countries taken together.

The Big Fields

With regard to the two largest producing areas at present, PEMEX notes that our zone in the Gulf of Campeche, which yields almost 500,000 barrels a day, was secured after just 7 months of work, because of the systematized exploratory activity and the intensive development of the newly found fields; the results have been exceptional on a worldwide comparative basis.

It recalled that the oil fields in the North Sea, Norway's Ekofisk, for example (producing 254,800 barrels a day), and Great Britain's Forties (300,000 barrels a day), both of which are smaller than those in Campeche Sound, took 10 years to put into production after they were discovered.

The current output of the Mesozoic fields in the southeast, more than 1 million barrels a day or more than half of our total production, has risen substantially owing to the high degree of technological know-how that has been applied to their development and to the continuity of exploration work in the area.

Over the last 3 years output has climbed as follows (volume of crude oil and liquids): 30 November 1976, 907,200 barrels; 11 February 1977, 1.522 million barrels; 23 November 1979, 1.8178 million barrels, and 12 March 1980, 2.0009 barrels.

These rising figures also indicate a major development effort, based on billions of pesos in investments for capital projects, in other words, more than three times what was invested from 1970 to 1976, and rigorous technical and administrative planning that enabled our goals to be achieved ahead of schedule.

Thus, over the first 36 months of the present administration, the objectives of the 6-year work program were achieved 2½ years ahead of schedule, and more than double the 1976 levels of oil and gas liquids were produced. The efficiency of industry operations and the productivity of its technical resources and manpower also rose significantly.

Major Increases in Gas Output

Developments in gas production have been similar, as there has been sharp growth to the current level of 3.5 billion cubic feet a day.

With regard to productivity, PEMEX noted that in 1976 it employed 88,052 persons, including both plant and temporary workers; there are currently around 100,000, an annual growth rate of 4 percent in personnel, as compared to a production increase during the period of 122 percent.

Support Projects

In order to achieve this output, PEMEX had to make a major effort and construct and install 10 offshore drilling platforms in the Gulf of Campeche, 5 oil and gas handling platforms, and 210 kilometers of large diameter underwater piping, which includes the 36-inch oil pipeline from the Akal-C Complex to the port of Dos Bocas in the state of Tabasco.

The following were constructed in the Mesozoic area of Chiapas-Tabasco over the last 3 years: 5 separator batteries to handle more than 100,000 barrels of oil each a day; 12 gas compression stations, including 126 units with a total horsepower of 440,550, and 1,72 million kilometers of oil and gas pipelines to transport products to refineries, terminals and treatment plants.

As has been reported, the development program in Campeche Sound has been of great importance for the current output of 2 million barrels of oil and liquids a day.

This program led to the discovery of one of the three giant deposits that have been uncovered in our territory. During the past decade, these were the only oil-bearing strata in the world so classified by the international petroleum industry. They include the Akal (one of whose wells puts out 42,000 barrels a day alone), Nohoch, Abkatun and Ixtoc fields.

Key:

1. Daily Crude Oil Production
2. Barrels

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DENCKER: GERMANS TO COINVEST WITH PEMEX

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 9

[Article by Braulio Peralta Villegas]

[Text] Norman Dencker, the FRG's ambassador to Mexico, said yesterday that President Jose Lopez-Portillo's visit to his country next May would open up a new stage in political, economic, trade and education relations between the two governments.

This, he added, was because Mexico has become a major stabilizing force in the Latin American region since it is an advanced democracy and owing to its enormous economic growth and its major role in international relations.

The role that the United States once played in Latin America has changed, the German ambassador said, and now the nations of Latin America themselves will resolve their own internal problems henceforth.

At a press conference at the embassy, Norman Dencker said that during the Mexican chief executive's visit to his country the two governments would discuss issues relating to the international energy situation, world conflicts, political imbalances and possible recommendations for the regions where upheavals are affecting the entire world, such as Central America and the Middle East.

The ambassador also said that his nation was interested in having a country like Mexico as an ally, inasmuch as in recent times it has upheld outstanding positions in the UN with regard to the problems in Iran and Afghanistan, the inalienable right of the Palestinian people, and security treaties for the peace, sovereignty and independence of peoples. These are positions, he added, which the German Government shares.

FRG Wants Mexican Oil

Norman Dencker gave the press conference at the embassy to disclose the details of our president's visit to his country. He announced that a German delegation would be arriving in Mexico in 2 weeks to negotiate possible crude oil sales with PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum]. One of the firms that is coming, he said, was a semi-state enterprise, PIBA [expansion unknown].

We know, he added, that Mexico has curtailed its petroleum deliveries "for reasons that we appreciate and respect." For that reason, he said, we are interested in obtaining the figures whenever the Mexican Government is prepared to reveal them. He did not disclose how many barrels the FRG wants to buy.

Joint Investment Plans

The diplomat also said that our country has been in touch with German firms, all of which have shown an interest in undertaking joint investments in Mexico. If this idea works out, he said, Lopez-Portillo might receive some details during his visit.

Norman Dencker said that current FRG investments in our country total around 20 billion Mexican pesos, a figure that will continue to rise because of the enormous attraction that Mexico holds in view of the 12 percent annual growth rate of its market.

In this regard, he said that they have a great deal of respect for our country's foreign investment law, although it would perhaps be a good idea to work out an agreement to protect German investment, as well as other pacts to prevent dual taxation in the FRG and Mexico, as is currently the case. Such an agreement, he said, would provide for each type of tax and indicate where it would be levied. Under such agreements, he noted, there would be an additional incentive to invest more.

With regard to bilateral matters, the ambassador pointed out that there are no problems of any sort and that economic, cultural and commercial cooperation between the two nations is fruitful and growing, although he acknowledged that the trade balance is $588,848 dollars in the FRG's favor. Mexico's exports there total $170,876 [sic]. These data are from 1979.

The FRG is prepared, however, to double its current coffee imports from Mexico, which total 100 million marks, as soon as the Mexican office that handles sales of this item "begins operating smoothly."

Mexico has multiple possibilities for boosting its exports, the ambassador added, after reiterating that the PRC needs a strong partner like Mexico, a stable country with an advanced democracy and enormous economic growth. Hence, he has no doubt that the visit by our chief executive will open up a new stage in relations between the two nations.

The PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization]: An Important Role in a Peaceful Solution for the Middle East

In conclusion, when asked about his country's stand regarding whether the PLO ought to take part in the Middle East peace talks, Norman Dencker asserted that a role for the PLO is this regard is of paramount importance for future Middle East solutions, that the Camp David accords are just the beginning of a peaceful settlement for the region, that there is still a lot of work to be done and that the PLO ought to be present at future talks.

The peace-related problems that exist around the world, he said, affect all nations. We are just as worried about what is happening in Central America as about what is taking place in the Middle East. "And it is not because of interest in oil," he went on to say. These are more deeply rooted problems of political and economic stability at the international level.

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PORT, OTHER IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR VERACRUZ

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 5-F

[Article by Augusto M. Gonzalez]

[Text] Veracruz, Veracruz (OEM [Mexican Publishing Organization])--The Federal Government will invest 1.724 billion pesos in this state for communications, telecommunications, federal roads and equipment to make them more productive.

Miguel Angel Barberena, an engineer and the under-secretary of communications and transportation, added that of this amount, 1.049 billion pesos would be invested in railways, including administration, studies and projects.

The state governor spoke about the location of production centers in Veracruz and announced that Froylan Vargas, an engineer, would be arriving in this port city today to set in motion the program to construct the Veracruz-Tlacolulan Highway, which along with our railways and other roads, will help to relieve the cargo congestion in our ports.

The program, which officials have described as intended to improve the Mexican National Railway system from Veracruz to the isthmus, calls for investments of 1.724 billion pesos; this also includes mor to be spent for mail service, telecommunications, road transportat equipment and personnel.

Of the 1.724 billion, 1.049 billion pesos will go into railways, administration and projects.

The maritime sector has a very important place in this program of undertakings. Some 579.5 million pesos will be spent on port operations systems and dredging, as well as the maritime signaling system, which is a nationwide program, Communications and Public Works Under-Secretary Miguel Angel Barberena Vega underscored.

Port Enhancement--The Federal Government will invest more than 1.7 billion pesos in the port of Veracruz, which will spur the development not only of the state but of the entire country.

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CST HEAD DISCUSSES ECONOMY, POLITICS

Workers' Role in Plan

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Ivan Garcia, the secretary general of the Sandinist Workers Federation (CST)]

[Text] The Development of Awareness

Objectively speaking, the awareness of the workers has made gains that were evident even before the victory of the Sandinist popular uprising on 19 July 1979.

For a long time, the workers' struggle, which is a reflection of the degree of awareness that has been achieved, was more or less limited to economic grievances, with a few exceptions. If we review the strikes and work stoppages that occurred over the last 10 years, we will see that most of them were designed to secure wage boosts or adjustments, combined, from time to time, with political demands.

The unleashing of the uprising's offensive starting in October 1977 to some extent raised the spirits of the workers, which were quite low, and as a result of this, increasingly large worker contingents joined the political struggle and, as its highest expression, the armed struggle.

When the September 1978 uprising took place, thousands of workers took to the streets to take part in the armed struggle, which showed that their degree of awareness had risen considerably over previous years.

There were, of course, other factors involved: the workers' disillusionment with traditional opposition political movements, and the increasingly firm conviction that they could achieve a solution to their problems only by taking up arms to topple the Somoza military dictatorship.

It was this conviction that led to the en masse incorporation of our people, and hence the workers, into the uprising of September 1978 and the final uprising, which culminated in the victory of 19 July.

It would, however, be simplistic to assert that the awareness of the workers has reached a very high level just because they joined the insurrection, inasmuch as an awareness must also be reflected in other attitudes towards our various economic, social, political, etc problems. The awareness of the workers has developed quite a bit since 19 July, and this can be seen in the fact that they are becoming more organized, that they understand the problems of the revolution better and better and that they are participating more actively each day in our current revolutionary tasks, such as the efforts to boost production, volunteer work, rejecting counterrevolutionary maneuvers and the spirit of organized labor unity that prevails in broad sectors.

There are unquestionably problems stemming from the political backwardness of certain worker sectors, and this has enabled elements harmful to the process to utilize them in a number of cases. We can point to the case of the 20 factories that were recently shut down as a result of CAUS [Center for Labor Unity and Action] manipulation.

Worker Vigilance

Worker vigilance is playing an important role in consolidating the Sandinist People's Revolution and in rejecting the destabilizing maneuvers of the traitorous bourgeoisie in complicity with Yankee imperialism.

For some time now, certain businessmen have gone about halting production and removing capital from their enterprises, knowing that they are thus thwarting the execution of the Economic Reactivation Plan, which is vital in overcoming the problems that we have inherited from Somoza.

In order to slow production, for example, businessmen are resorting to methods such as not securing enough raw materials, which causes a drop in productivity; not purchasing spare parts for machinery and, when they break down, not repairing them, which gives them a justification for cutting output; and not paying back longstanding debts with suppliers so that the latter will stop supplying them with raw materials, etc.

There are also various methods of removing capital from businesses: the sale of machinery, taking out loans that they later convert into dollars and take out of the country, altering cost invoices, inflating accounts receivable, etc.

The workers are playing a decisive role in uncovering these maneuvers, and this too is a reflection of revolutionary awareness. To cite just two specific cases, the workers at "El Caracol" have brought out the enterprise's ties with Somoza and its slowdown of production, and the workers at Almacen y Teneria Hurtado (warehouse and tannery) have reported a production slowdown. Both enterprises have been put under government control.

Rise in Productivity

Everyone knows that the Economic Reactivation Plan that has been worked out for the benefit of the people this year calls primarily for an increase in production, in order to secure more foreign exchange, which will enable us to buy imports, and in order to have a greater supply of the consumer goods that we ourselves produce.

The workers are also playing a decisive role in this area, inasmuch as in addition to their efforts to boost production during their regular work days, they are doing volunteer work, especially in enterprises in the sphere of the people's property.

For months now, several departments have been pushing the so-called "Red-Black Saturdays" and "Proletarian Sundays," when workers from various unions do volunteer work, either in their own work places or elsewhere.

Production has also risen in other areas, as thousands of workers, especially on weekends, have begun harvesting cotton, coffee and sugar cane, which are products that support much of our nation's economy.

We should also mention the efforts of workers to boost production when they themselves are the ones in charge of it. A noteworthy case is "La Completa" dairy products, where our comrades have succeeded in upping production by more than 1,000 percent.

Another development that we ought to mention is that the formation of Production Councils and Reactivation Assemblies is already in the works. They are going to help control and monitor enterprises and boost output.

The Reactivation Assemblies are going to consist of the workers at a specific factory or enterprise. When they are in the area of the people's property, they will perform co-management functions and effectively assist the administration in resolving production problems. In the case of private businesses, the assemblies will perform mainly monitoring functions.

The Production Councils are going to be made up of delegates from plants and enterprises in a specific branch. They will play basically the same role as the Reactivation Assemblies, but naturally at a much broader level, inasmuch as they will have a group of enterprises, not just one, under their jurisdiction.

As we pointed out above, they have not yet been put into practice, although they are expected to begin operations soon, with the hope that when they do, production will rise significantly.

Labor Leadership

The CST operates along eminently class guidelines. It therefore stamps its class-oriented seal on its leadership in the struggles of our members and of Nicaraguan workers in general.

This entails keeping in mind the immediate and strategic interests of the workers. The merging of these interests [illegible] the objective possibilities of our country enables us to have a clear view of what line to pursue and of how to accurately guide the struggles of the workers, in keeping with the postulates of the Sandinist People's Revolution, which are in line with the most deeply felt interests of our people.

In this regard, we feel that the labor leadership must make the objective difficulties facing our revolution as clear as possible, because by realizing and understanding these difficulties, the workers will be able to clearly grasp the role that they must play to consolidate and intensify the process.

From this standpoint, we workers support the Economic Reactivation Program for 1980, because we are convinced that it is an effective tool for overcoming the problems that the Somoza military dictatorship bequeathed us in the economic sphere and for creating the conditions that will enable us to gradually lay the groundwork of our economic independence.

The internationalist and anti-imperialist philosophy of Sandino is also an essential element in our labor leadership. One of his sayings, we should recall, was: "My cause is the cause of my people, the cause of the Americas, the cause of all oppressed peoples."

We are therefore convinced of the need for the international solidarity of the workers, for revolutionary internationalism and for militant brotherhood.

The Problem of Labor Unity

The CST has been conceived as a move towards a single union for our country. This is not capricious. The plan for a single union is based on the revolutionary approach that a single social class should have a single labor union.

The workers of our country have common interests to defend against the onslaught of the traitorous bourgeoisie, the enemies of our Sandinist People's Revolution and imperialism, and the best way to undertake such a defense is by remaining united, inasmuch as it is an irrefutable fact that the dispersion of the workers' forces only helps their class enemies.

Based on this, the CST, since it was formed, has made sincere appeals for unity to other labor organizations and has put forth efforts towards achieving that unity.

Unity has, nevertheless, been thwarted by various factors, some of which we can outline as follows: the base, selfish interests of a number of pseudo-leaders, who so as not to lose their status as "leaders," albeit of small groups of workers, do not accept unity; ideological differences with some organizations whose policies are not fully in keeping with the interests of the workers, and, furthermore, maneuvers by imperialism to prevent unity, in the knowledge that it would effectively aid the progress of the Sandinist People's Revolution.

An important step towards labor unity was the formation (at our request) of the National Inter-Union Commission, made up of the independent CGT [General Labor Confederation], the CAUS and our own CST.

This major gain has been boycotted by CAUS elements, who in recent weeks organized strikes among fellow workers at 20 enterprises, thus shattering the initial pacts of the commission and, in fact, furthering the destabilizing plans that the traitorous bourgeoisie and imperialism have implemented.

In spite of this, we have succeeded in getting our fellow workers in a number of enterprises to rectify their position, by exhaustively explaining to them how damaging such an attitude is to the revolutionary process.

We have spoken at great length about unity. Nevertheless, on this occasion we ought to specify our conception of this far-reaching element in the workers' struggle.

We firmly believe that unity cannot come about in the abstract. Why unity must come about, how it must come about and to what end it must come about, are some of the basic elements that we must take into account in discussing this.

As far as we are concerned, unity must be based on minimum points of agreement among the various union organizations, and one of the most important and indispensable points is the defense of the Sandinist People's Revolution.

In other words, we feel that unity with any other labor organization is impossible unless the pacts stipulate the unavoidable commitment to defend the revolution against its domestic and foreign enemies in their various manifestations.

This entails, among other things, supporting the Economic Reactivation Plan; utilizing the appropriate channels to resolve worker problems; maintaining and boosting production by refraining from strikes and work stoppages to demand wage increases, and rejecting the maneuvers of the traitorous bourgeoisie and imperialism.

In spite of the difficulties that we are faced with at present, we are optimistic about the future and we are fully convinced that worker unity will be a reality in our country in the not too distant future.

Relationship with the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front]

We should first state that the CST recognizes the FSLN as the single, unquestionable politico-military vanguard of the revolution.

Therefore, the CST follows the FSLN's guidelines and is responsive to the policies that it charts to consolidate and intensify the revolution.

This does not mean, far from it, that the FSLN despotically imposes its views on the organized workers of our CST. On the contrary, the FSLN enriches its political approaches and bolsters its vanguard position by grasping the feelings of the workers and applying them in practice to actual conditions with guidelines that are in keeping with the development of the revolutionary process.

Thus, there is a close-knit interrelationship between the vanguard and the rank-and-file that will play a leading role in the construction of the new society.

Role of Businessmen

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Ivan Garcia, secretary general of the CST]

[Text] Before commenting on the latest stands that have been taken by a number of business sectors grouped together in an organization that they call the Nicaraguan Democratic Party or Movement, I would like to express my complete conviction that history and the future belong to us, that no human force or scheme can halt this process and that all of the attempts to turn back the tides of history will come up against an unsurmountable and very solid wall. This wall, this force consists of the fists, the arms and Sandinist energy of the Nicaraguan proletariat, which yesterday was capable of defeating the dictatorship and which today is marshaling its forces to assert its energies against the enemies of the revolution.

Now then, I would like to take up a number of matters, but not without noting first that some of the "grievances' put forth by the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN) have never been questioned by the Sandinist People's Revolution; on the contrary, they have been reaffirmed and consolidated by the revolution and our vanguard, the FSLN.

Let us take a look at some of these matters. They are trying to play on the religious sentiments of our people by stating that there is no freedom of religion in our country. Nothing could be more demagogical or further from the truth, because the people themselves are faithful witnesses to the fact that that freedom is fully guaranteed today more than ever.

They have mentioned the alleged need for freedom of expression. In this regard, we workers realize that freedom of expression means the right of the people to inform and be informed. The MDN businessmen see freedom of expression as their "right" to make use of the mass media to alienate and dominate and thus continue exploiting the working class. For the first time in our country's history we the workers can publicly express our stands and concerns. We need only recall that under the dictatorship the distributers of worker newspapers and the newsmen of the people were repressed and even murdered, which is not the case today. We see freedom of expression as the right of the masses to engineer a revolution, not, obviously, as the right to engineer a counterrevolution, but thanks to this revolution's generosity, the exploiters can voice their desire to continue exploiting us and their dreams of returning to the past.

They are saying that the Great National Literacy Crusade should not be "manipulated." We still do not understand what they mean by this. We think that the gentlemen in the MDN are orchestrating this reaction out of fear, out of the terror that they feel when they realize not only that our fellow workers and peasant farmers are going to learn to read and write, but that as they become literate, they will become active participants in the task of reconstruction and consciously decide their own fate. They are terrified by this fact: that when our illiterate brothers become familiar with the letters of the alphabet, the revolution will come to them.

If they are talking about the personal belongings that are needed to satisfy human needs, we want to let them know that such property is far from being in danger, precisely because we have never had these belongings. When have the humble people of this country owned houses, television sets, furniture, beds, etc? Never! They are perhaps forgetting that our people have lived in cardboard houses, sleeping on the floor and sitting on tree stumps? Today, in contrast, these personal belongings will become a reality through the Sandinist People's Revolution, one of whose fundamental objectives is to lift our people out of poverty and provide them with the basic elements (decent housing and the other necessary facilities) for the austere and decent life that we deserve.

Continuing these comments on their stands, we come to the height of their brazenness, when they talk about the freedom of trade union, labor and political organization.

This makes us laugh. Why? Simply because this is a right that did not exist previously and that not only exists today but is being abused.

Here is an example: What happened at the Espana Sports Complex on 16 March? Didn't they "organize" a "political party" made up of businessmen, reactionary sectors and even a number of elements with well-known past links to Somoza?

And let's not even talk about the right to organize unions. Weren't many of the businessmen who formed "the new political party" the ones who during the dictatorship not only opposed the workers' right to organize but even fired them, at best?

Lastly, with regard to the right to organize, we wonder why the CGT has seen its unions increase in number, why the workers are joining the ATC [Agricultural Workers Association] and the CST. Might this freedom be giving rise to the workers' indomitable determination to organize and construct the single union?

To conclude, I would like to talk about our view of the Sandinist Movement. The Sandinist Movement is the patrimony of our workers and peasant farmers, and this is because only our rural and urban workers were able to assert their class and anti-imperialist heritage. Today, the bourgeoisie wants to present its view of those who are proud of having Indian blood coursing through their veins and of having one day said: "Only the workers and the peasant farmers will last until the end. Only their organized force will achieve victory."

Regarding the Army

The bourgeoisie has traditionally pointed out that the army must be apolitical and national. We workers realize that this view is basically the reflection of a class position. Never in the history of any country have armies and the other instruments of domination been above social classes. On the contrary, the army has specifically defended the interests of the ruling class.

In our particular case, in the past the army of the Somoza tyranny defended not only Somoza but the entire bourgeoisie as well.

This is not a capricious assertion; it is based on actual, concrete facts. We need only recall when these businessmen in the MDN and other small segments of the bourgeoisie "appealed to the impartiality of the National Guard" to quash working class demonstrations with rifle butts and even with bullets. This was how they took care of labor conflicts.

We also recall how the National Guard evicted our brothers, the peasant farmers, from the lands that they rightfully claimed were theirs.

The National Guard took all of these actions not because of its "impartiality" but because businessmen called on them to "restore order and guarantee private property."

With regard to our People's Army, we workers feel that it should rightfully be called Sandinist, precisely because the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] is the continuation of the Army of Workers and Peasant Farmers, who under the leadership of our General of Free Men, formed the Army for the Defense of National Sovereignty.

Furthermore, it reflects the combativeness of our people and the anti-imperialism and class spirit of our entire campaign of struggle.

It is, in a word, a class-related army (and no one should doubt this in the slightest) precisely because the workers and peasant farmers were the main architects of the Sandinist victory, and these same workers and peasant farmers are the ones forging the new homeland for which more than 40,000 Nicaraguans, the sons of the proletariat, not the bourgeoisie, shed their blood.

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PAPER DISCUSSES TRADE, DECAPITALIZATION

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Mar 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The maneuvers used by the traitorous, bourgeois depleters of capital are many in number. They are as complex as the very operation for the production and marketing of products.

It can be said that every movement of the production process conceals a possible maneuver. The very capitalist system is precisely what permits such actions.

Discovering a decapitalizing action is not always easy, but it can be achieved provided that workers in enterprises are united and constantly vigilant.

As will be noted later, the work being done by companies belonging to the accounting and administrative departments of companies and factories is decisive for providing proof when it comes time to show that an enterprise is being decapitalized.

BARRICADA has engaged in a number of consultations, conducted an investigation and asked questions about possible maneuvers, or at least, the most commonly used ones. This article provides the results so that the people and particularly workers may know a little more about such maneuvers.

We do not claim to present the whole range of tricks, but at least, the most common ones. Behind each one may be a different variation or form, but the result is always the same: to take away the enterprise's money and assets.

As explained on other occasions, this is concretely harmful to production and consequently, to national economy and the economic recovery plan.

Underbilling for Exports

In the normal conduct of business, an industry or enterprise may complete an export sale for a given sum of money. The marketer actually sells at 4 cordobas per unit, for example, but reports a sale of 2 cordobas to the authorities.

In this way, the enterprise is being decapitalized because the industrialist or merchant can argue that he has suffered "losses" and needs another loan to operate.

This will produce a greater demand for financing from the bank, which is probably too much for the institution, and this is another problem. However, in actual fact, the bank -- the people -- will be subsidizing and contributing when decapitalization takes place.

The workers have two methods of discovering whether such maneuvers are being used: 1) the direct method, by ascertaining the price at which the article is being sold, asking for the help of accountants and sales personnel working for the enterprise; and 2) the indirect method, by using logic. It is unusual for an enterprise to sell at low prices, unless it has a large inventory on hand. In addition, one can obtain the prices of products on other markets in order to detect the possibility of decapitalization.

Overbilling for Imports

Similar maneuvers are used with the purchase of raw materials. If the final product costs 3 cordobas and is sold for 4, while a component of the imported raw material costs 2 cordobas according to the company's books, it is highly likely that the price of the material was falsified and that it could have been 1 cordoba.

In order to do this, the enterprise may create a company abroad with a foreign name. It would purchase the material from traditional suppliers for 1 cordoba and resell it for 2, thereby upping the price of the product while a goodly share of the capital invested remains outside the country.

In order to ascertain whether this is occurring, the following may be done: 1) ascertain whether the supplier company providing the raw material is sound, responsible; 2) learn who the main suppliers are and see at what price the products are sold; and 3) ask for the cooperation of the administrative department in the investigation. It is possible that they do not realize that such a practice is occurring.

Decapitalization

In some cases, industrialists or owners have machinery in good condition and the replacement value is very high.

They can claim that the machinery is worn out, arguing that the war or inactivity -- one of the two -- is responsible.

They then promote its sale abroad as scrap. If it is worth 200,000 cordobas, they report that it was sold for 50,000. Actually, the sale price is 200,000.

As a result of this, not only is a means of production probably vital to the nation lost, but in addition, the enterprise is decapitalized.

The workers can detect this: 1) by being aware of the condition of the machinery; 2) by looking up the purchase cost in the accounting books; and 3) by being aware of the importance of means of production to the country's economy. It may happen that the sale is necessary, even if the machinery is in good condition, and justified when it is to purchase something of better quality or with a greater capacity.

Commissions Abroad

Very often, in order to make sales abroad, the owner or industrialist must pay some reasonable commission to the seller (1 percent).

But when one suddenly finds that the commissions are 20 or 25 percent, for example, something is very likely wrong. The enterprise is having its capital depleted.

This can be detected: 1) by ascertaining what the commission is and to whom it is paid. The commissions may be being paid to a relative of the owner, to the owner himself, or deposited in a bank account abroad in the owner's name; 2) by having the cooperation of friends in the accounting department; and 3) demonstrating that it is actually necessary to pay such a percentage for the sale of the product.

Bills Payable

Every enterprise has bills payable. Some even owe money to themselves or have contracted debts abroad.

In circumstances such as those existing at present, it is logical for there to be special arrangements with creditors. But if one suddenly finds that one creditor in particular is being paid hastily, as if there were some hurry for the bill to be paid, it is a sign that something unusual is happening.

Furthermore, when we find that there are debts to the bank with no serious attempt to restructure credit, something is wrong.

This relationship is suspicious because capital may be taken out to be paid to the enterprise itself or to ghost enterprises that have been set up abroad.

The practice is also decapitalization. At any rate, one must learn who the creditor being paid so speedily is

Bills Receivable

In selling abroad, the seller normally grants a reasonable period of time for payment of the credit.

But if an enterprise has bills receivable worth 2 million cordobas, for example, it is strange that a longer period of time than usual would be granted. The most obvious conclusion is that there is no interesting in collecting. This also implies bad faith.

It also happens that the purchaser does not pay and in exchange, offers a counterguarantee which, as a counterpart to the debt, will be used to make investments in the country of the debtor.

In other words, the sale may well be made with the arrangement that it will not be paid for and that a counterguarantee will be offered.

In this way, all goods can be sold and all methods may be used to decapitalize the enterprise. The seller can then, quite unexpectedly, have sufficient money abroad to go and invest in whatever he chooses.

Sale to Ghost Enterprises

There are sometimes cases in which an enterprise begins to sell to a company abroad at high prices, with sufficient regularity and a short term for payment, thereby making people believe that the manager is a genius.

However, one soon finds that the company has declared bankruptcy and that the enterprise did not get its investment back.

It may be that the ghost enterprise belongs to the same owners and that a trick was used to sell articles abroad and leave the money there.

Workers should always investigate a new buyer who makes high sales and who is given all kinds of privileges in dealings.

Expenditures for Representation

An enterprise often incurs representation expenditures in order to promote the sale of articles abroad.

This is reasonable, but the family of the owner may be going around the world or making unnecessary trips on such a pretext.

Purchase of Machinery

Sometimes more is paid for technical assistance or machinery which may basically mean that there is an attempt to deplete the enterprise's capital.

With regard to double books, accountants are always aware of this, whence the importance of their close cooperation with union members in watching over the enterprise.

As we have pointed out, these are only some of the tricks used to decapitalize an enterprise. They may have variations, they may be disguised in another fashion or still others may exist.

The important thing is to be vigilant and responsible, remaining alert to the likely decapitalization of enterprises.

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HASSAN CRITICIZES COSEP, CONDEMNS DECAPITALIZATION

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Mar 80 pp 1, 12

[Report on speech by Moises Hassan, member of the Government Junta of Reconstruction, delivered on 12 March before workers]

[Text] "In recent days, I have heard on the news and read in the newspapers vast pronouncements made by COSEP [expansion unknown] demanding guarantees of the government, just as they did under Somocism. They talk about free trade, but what they want is uncontrolled prices for all the organizations they manipulate. But the sectors which COSEP manipulates do not move a finger to control certain enterprise owners who deplete their capital while saying they support the revolution. And yet, nothing is said against these enterprises which are leaving nothing but shells and the threat of unemployment." These remarks were made by Moises Hassan, member of the Government Junta of Reconstruction, speaking before thousands of workers who arrived at six o'clock yesterday afternoon to demand the immediate nationalization of certain enterprises that have been inspected.

Clarity and Caution

Addressing the workers, Hassan asked for political clarity and caution in taking action in the seizure of these enterprises. "It must be clear that we are independent politically, but we are still not independent economically," he said.

Hassan added: "We look with growing concern upon the decapitalization being practiced by certain unpatriotic businessmen who could not leave with the fall of Somoza and who are now using cunning to get their money out. The Government Junta and the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] leaders have clearly responded with the recent decree on decapitalization.

"We are going to confront them and we are investigating them. Those who violate the decree will suffer severe economic sanctions and up to 6 years in prison. Accomplices will be sentenced to 2 years in prison. Accomplices are those employees who have access to the books of the owners who are depleting their own capital but who do not report them.

"All these decapitalizers who are committing a crime by leaving nothing but a shell of an enterprise and unemployment will have to bear the brunt of the law. We shall have no mercy on them," Hassan said. The demonstrators shouted, "Expropriation! Expropriation!"

Hassan then said: "We must be cautious in this process and not allow what happened in Chile to happen here. We must be calm and cautious, but we are not going to be hurt because of excessive caution. We must not be carried away by impressions and what we want immediately. We have time ahead of us and the measures will be taken at the right time."

In his speech, Hassan harshly attacked traitors and the extreme leftist groups which are taking advantage of the current situation to play into the hands of the agents of imperialism anxious to upset the revolution.

When he concluded his remarks, one of the El Caracol workers took the floor and immediately asked for expropriation of that enterprise, but Hassan told him that all evidence related to the case should be taken to the Office of Attorney General.

CST Intervention

Ramon Medrano, CST [Trade Union Confederation] leader, spoke at the Government Palace and said that COSEP is demanding guarantees of the government but that it has not come out against the decapitalization of enterprises.

"We demand that COSEP give the names of the decapitalizers. We ask the JGRN [National Reconstruction Government Junta] to come out for the nationalization of enterprises that the workers are asking for and that it apply the most recent decrees," the speaker said.

The thousands of demonstrators left the CST at 5:30 in the afternoon and marched to the Government Palace, chanting slogans and demanding the nationalization of various enterprises that have been inspected and that have been accused of decapitalization.

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BRIEFS

NEW GOVERNMENT BUDGET--In St Kitts-Nevis, the 2-month old government has presented its first budget projecting a current account surplus for 1980 to 1981 and promising prudence in its handling of finances. Speaking in Parliament today, Finance Minister Simeon Daniel said the current accounts surplus would be in the region of 29,000 U.S. dollars. This was based on a 17.38 million U.S. dollars recurrent expenditurer and a 17.41 million U.S. dollars recurrent revenue. The minister said the government expected to pay off loans amounting to over 2 million dollars and make interest payments of nearly 800,000 dollars on accounts of the public debit. In addition, he said there had been a surplus for the 1979 to 1980 budget projections of a deficit, which was a situation the new government intended to improve on. [Text] [FL172045 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 17 Apr 80 FL]

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BRIEFS

CONSTITUTIONAL PLEBISCITE SET--Montevideo, 15 Apr (LATIN)--The commander in chief of the armed forces, Lt Gen Luis Queirolo, has announced that a new constitution will be submitted to a plebiscite in November. Unofficial sources here had reported last week that there was a possibility the plebiscite would be postponed until 1981. General Queirolo confirmed that the draft of the constitution was submitted to the executive branch by a political-military commission 20 days ago. The constitution is now being studied by the president and his cabinet. The armed forces commander in chief talked with journalists last night after a ceremony honoring those who fell during the fight against subversion. The draft of the constitution will be submitted very soon to the Council of State, the legislative body body. So far no details of the draft have been disclosed. The president of the political-military commission, Gen Abdon Raimundez, recently stated that the constitution would not contain "spectacular changes" and that it would permit the president to govern with greater acumen and efficiency. Local journalistic circles disclosed some time ago that a constituent assembly composed of the executive branch, the military junta and the Council of State will approve the constitution on 18 July, the 150 anniversary of the first Uruguayan constitution. The November plebiscite is part of a plan to return to institutionality, which provides for the calling of elections to choose a president and members of a new legislative branch at the end of 1981. The two traditional political parties, the Blanco and Colorado, will participate in those elections, but no decision has yet been made on whether more than one presidential candidate can be registered. [Text] [PY160116 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0430 GMT 15 Apr 80 PY]

MEAT EXPORTS--Montevideo, 19 Apr (AFP)--The National Meat Institute reported that Brazil and Egypt were the main buyers of Uruguayan meat during the first 3 months of this year. The two nations imported 11,775 tons of beef out of a total of 21,040 tons exported. [PY211419 Paris AFP in Spanish 1345 GMT 19 Apr 80 PY]

ARAB EMIRATES RELATIONS--The Uruguayan Foreign Ministry announced today that Uruguay has established diplomatic relations with the United Arab Emirates, effective today. [PY012215 Montevideo RADIO EL ESPECTADOR NETWORK in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY]

WORLD BANK CREDIT--Acting Economy and Finance Minister (Ernesto Rosso) and World Bank Vice President for Latin America (Nicolas Albrito Barleta) this morning signed a credit agreement for $24 million, granted by the World Bank to Uruguay for farming and cattle-raising development projects. [PY221910 Montevideo RADIO EL ESPECTADOR NETWORK in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Apr 80 PY]

CSO: 3010

PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY 1980 OBJECTIVES OUTLINED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 16 Mar 80 p 1-33

[Text] Despite the fact that investments in the petrochemical industry this year will barely exceed 100 million bolivars, the national government, according to Minister of Energy and Mines Humbert. Calderon Berti, is decidedly optimistic about the future of the industry, which is staging a successful recovery.

"Generally speaking," says Calderon, referring to the industry's 1980 plans, "PEQUIVEN's [Petrochemical Company of Venezuela] 1980 operations are being based on the following objectives:

1) Continuation of the company's effort to enhance its human capital through employment of experienced personnel, intensive training at all levels, and motivation of the company's work force, all with the aim of improving the company's efficiency and of making the state petrochemical industry a viable activity;

2) Improvement of its industrial support services and construction of warehousing and handling facilities for materials and products, to provide the needed operational flexibility at the Moron and El Tablazo complexes;

3) Maintenance of a diligent watchfulness in regard to environmental protection and work safety of the company's workers.

"With regard to the Moron complex, major emphasis is being placed on advancing the engineering studies relating to construction of a liquids-handling platform to facilitate the handling of incoming raw materials and outgoing production surpluses as necessary to balance the complex's operations. Optimization of the ammonia and urea plants, which became operational towards the end of last year, is also being pursued.

"Also being stressed is the repair and putting into operation of this complex's granular fertilizer plant, which will enable us to supply part of the domestic market's needs for these products that are of prime importance

to the country's agricultural sector. As regards the El Tablazo complex, we expect to achieve the operational optimization of its olefin, 'cloro-sosa' [English equivalent unknown], and ammonia plants and a substantial improvement in the production levels of its urea plants.

"In all of this effort," says Calderon, "the technical aid contracted with qualified international firms, on terms most advantageous to the interests of the nation, continue playing an important part. The fact warrants highlighting that all of these contracts stipulate the obligation on the part of those firms to provide the training needed by Venezuelan personnel to enable them to operate the plants safely and efficiently in the shortest time possible.

"Besides, the final phase of the installation of a so-called high-density polyethylene plastic manufacturing plant will be undertaken this year. The entry into production of this plant by year-end 1982 will result in a substantial savings of foreign exchange in that the country will no longer have to import this so widely used and applied industrial material."

With respect to investments, taking into account the 1980 budget and the carryovers from prior years, PEQUIVEN plans to disburse a total of 102 million bolivars.

"Just 2 years since the establishment of PEQUIVEN as a subsidiary company of PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc], Minister Calderon Berti said, concluding his remarks, "the results obtained until now have warranted the steps that have been taken for the definitive recovery of the national petrochemical industry. These results and the managerial judgement that has been and will continue to be used in running of the enterprise make us optimistic as to the future of this important industrial activity."

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CALDERON BERTI REPORTS ON 1979 OIL REVENUE

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 1-17

[Article by C. R. Chavez: "1979 Oil Revenue Reached 38 Billion Bolivars"]

[Text] In 1979, Venezuela's oil revenue was the highest ever in the 60-year history of its main industry, thanks to the successive price rises and to the operational excellence of its oil activity, which did not neglect the conservationist factor even though it substantially increased its production and export volumes in that year. The exact total of 1979 tax revenues from this source was 37,995 billion bolivars, exceeding by about 1.5 billion bolivars the previous record attained in 1974.

This information is contained in Minister of Energy and Mines Humberto Calderon Berti's concise report on his ministry's activities, submitted yesterday to the National Congress, summarizing the principal aspects of the ministry's performance during 1979.

In his extensive document, Calderon Berti indicates that, of the 718 oil wells completed as producers in that year, 585 were development wells, 57 were extension wells, and 76 were new deposit discovery wells. Production, he states, totaled "approximately 858 million barrels, an increase of 67,581,550 barrels, or 8.55 percent, over the total obtained in 1978." The cited total represents a production of 2.35 million barrels daily. The production potential as of 31 December 1979 is placed at around 2.424 million barrels a day. Compared to the 31 December 1978 figure of 2.450 million barrels a day, this represents a drop of 26,000 barrels a day.

"During 1979," says Calderon Berti, "direct exports of crude oil, refined products and liquid gas-products totaled 775,112,803 barrels, representing 2,068,802 barrels a day." Comparison with 1978, when exports totaled 1,961,768 barrels a day, shows an increase in foreign sales of 107,034 barrels a day, or 39,067,482 barrels a year, amounting to a 5.5-percent increase. "This increase," says the minister, "is directly related to the worldwide oil shortage that ensued from the Iranian crisis."

The minister points out that "an analysis of exports by type of crude shows that heavy crude exports increased by 19.6 percent over 1978, representing 36.7 percent of total crude exports, which in turn represents an increase in its 1979 share, over that of 1978, of 2.5 percent." Exports of all crudes averaged 1,385,783 barrels a day, or 11.4 percent more than in 1978. This total includes, besides heavy crudes, 437,215 barrels daily of medium crudes and 273,947 barrels daily of light crudes, an increase of 17.5 percent over 1978 in these two categories. Exports of crude condensates and reconstituted crudes dropped 27.5 and 10.8 percent respectively from 1978 levels.

Oil Revenue

"Taxes on liquid hydrocarbons in 1979," says Calderon Berti, referring to royalties, "totaled approximately 8.293 billion bolivars. Of this total, oil royalties amounted to 7.418 billion bolivars, natural gas royalties to 0.342 billion, and other taxes, including excise and transportation, to 0.533 billion bolivars.

"Taxes collected in 1979, as compared to 1978, increased by 520 million bolivars, or 6.7 percent. This is owing to the 1979 production increase of 9.84 percent over the preceding year. The various instruments used by the state to participate in the proceeds of industry produced a national oil income, in 1979, of approximately 49.995 billion bolivars (56.30 bolivars, or $13.15, per barrel of liquid hydrocarbons produced), which when compared to the 31.417 billion bolivars (38.64 bolivars, or $8.99, per barrel of liquid hydrocarbons produced) total for the preceding year represents an increase of 17.66 bolivars, or $4.13, per barrel. The figure of 56.30 bolivars per barrel represents a record in the oil industry of Venezuela.

"Analysis of national oil revenue by its components, such as tax revenues and enterprise revenues, reveals the following situation:

a) Tax revenues totaled 37.995 billion bolivars, which compared to the 1978 total of 25.196 billion bolivars represents an increase of 12.799 billion bolivars. This increase consists mainly of income taxes, which for 1979 totaled 30.043 billion bolivars and represented 60 percent, and hence the major component of total taxes.

b) Enterprise revenues, another element in the total national oil income, are estimated to have averaged, in 1979, 13.51 bolivars, or $3.15, per barrel of liquid hydrocarbons produced.

c) Other elements to be considered are the new investments in fixed assets. During 1979, the national oil industry invested a total of 6 billion bolivars to meet the requirements set forth by the National Executive in the areas of exploration, production, transportation, refining and other activities involving efficient operational continuity of the industry. It should be noted that investments in exploration are based on guaranteeing and augmenting the industry's levels of proven reserves. Total fixed

assets investments are distributed as follows: exploration 18 percent, production 47 percent, maritime transportation 2 percent, refining 27 percent, and other activities including sales and administration 15 percent [figures as published total 109 percent]."

The Orinoco Belt

"In 1979, PETROVEN was assigned to draw up a Master Plan for Large-Scale Exploration and Development of the Orinoco Tar Belt that would speed up the surveying of the area to obtain in the shortest time possible a better knowledge of its oil resources and of the characteristics of its deposits, and in this way to be able to determine the most suitable techniques for their exploration, exploitation and efficient processing. The adoption of a flexible plan was recommended that would facilitate the optimization of the industry's efforts, resources and investments and that would suitably use the four operating subsidiaries in the exploration phases, including additional seismic surveys, geological and geochemical studies, and drilling.

"For the time being, production activities in the Hamaca-Pao area have been limited to the zones adjacent to existing production facilities, whereas in the Cerro Negro area, responsibilities have been assigned for enhancement of the crudes. In accordance with this Master Plan, 52 wildcat wells were programed for the Hamaca-Pao and Cerro Negro areas in 1979, of which 42 were successfully drilled, of which, in turn, 37 are completing, 1 was completed, and 4 have been abandoned. The programs being carried out in the Orinoco Tar Belt are based on considering that zone as one vast exploration and development project. The results obtained thus far clearly indicate an optimistic oil future for that region of the country..."

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PCV CONDEMNS 'SELLOUT' TO U.S. ON OIL TECHNOLOGY PACT

Caracas TRIBUNA POPULAR in Spanish 14-20 Mar 80 p 1

[Article: "Orinoco Belt Sellout Started"]

[Text] The technology pact signed by Calderon Berti in Washington places the nation's oil reserve potential at the disposal of American interests.

On 5 February, according to the American press, Minister of Energy and Mines Humberto Calderon Berti signed, in Washington, a technology cooperation agreement with the United States that provides for the "development of joint experiments in the exploitation of coal and oil, as well as the vast geothermal and hydraulic resources of that country."

The dispatches stressed the importance accorded by the United States to this agreement.

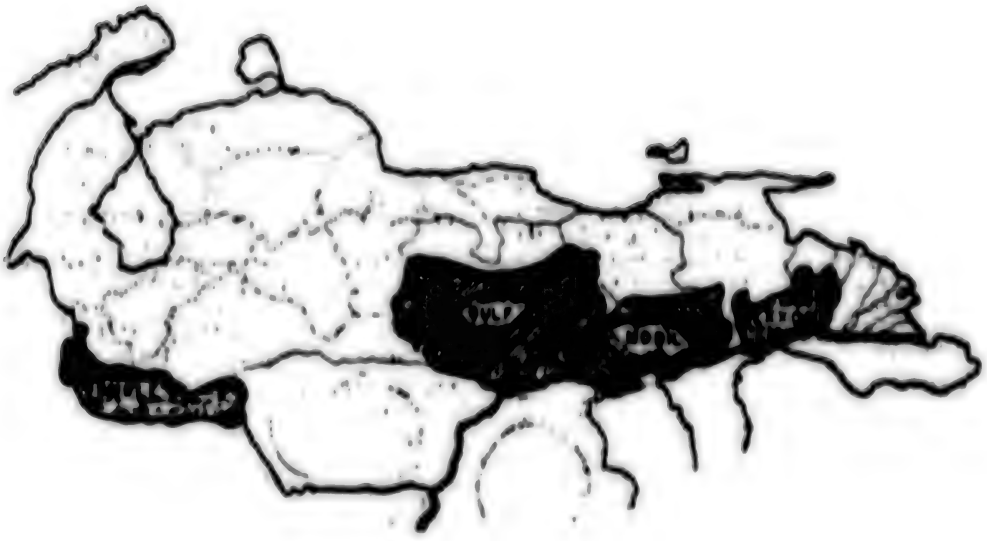
Before leaving for the United States, the minister of mines and energy released a plethora of statements emphasizing Venezuela's position as a dependable supplier, and referring to its oil potential which he estimated to be some 245 billion barrels, including proven and probable reserves.

Besides meeting with U.S. Secretary of Energy Charles Duncan, the Venezuelan minister was received by Vice President Mondale and Presidential Adviser on Security Zbigniew Brzezinski.

The step taken by the Venezuelan minister of mines and energy has been considered a very serious one, in that the nature of the agreement is deemed to seriously compromise the Orinoco Tar Belt. It is also felt that the future of the Tar Belt should not have been wrapped up into an agreement labeled "technological cooperation."

In the final analysis, that agreement places the Tar Belt within the "vital areas" of the United States and hence one of its "military areas," in the neocolonial and militaristic language of imperialism today.

[Caracas TRIBUNA POPULAR 14-20 Mar 80 p 1]



Through technological control of the semi-nationalized oil industry, the former concessionnaires will each get a slice in the carving up of the Orinoco Tar Belt.

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CHEMICAL INJECTION INCREASES LAKE MARACAIBO OIL OUTPUT

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL IN Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 2-23

[Text] By means of a very new method--the Chemical Injection System [SIQ] --which has been successfully tested at the Lake Maracaibo oil wells, MARAVEN,a subsidiary of PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc], has succeeded in increasing oil output by 300 barrels per day per well, according to information released by Mr Domingo Garcia, the company's head of surface operations.

As explained by Mr Garcia, this new method for improving the production of the lake oil deposits consists of a dosing tank "to hold the chemical demulsifier,with an externally visible indication permitting direct reading of the daily dosage used; a graphic recorder of pressures in the well's production tubing and casing, and in the chemical-dosing system." In designing these various components of the SIQ, Mr Garcia facilitated the use of the system by combining them into a single package.

Tests on injection of chemical demulsifiers into the gas that is in turn injected into the well in the assisted-recovery process were begun about mid-1979. Their implementation required the development of a characteristically simple and practical chemical-injection system. At the conclusion of 6 months of testing, "the results indicate an average gain of 300 barrels per day per well, as well as optimization of the gas used in the assisted-recovery methods that make those wells productive. Furthermore, the costs involved in using the system are very low as compared with the gains derived from it, and it is therefore planned to extend the project to a greater number of wells."

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LACK OF DOMESTIC GAS SERVICE CRITICIZED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 2-30

[Text] Maracaibo, 13 Mar (INNAC)--It is unjustifiable that, after 59 years of intensive oil exploitation and of at least knowing our gas reserves and their locations, Maracaibo should be the only city in the country that, since 1938, has had a domestic, commercial and industrial gas network, relieving it of the heavy cost of bottled gas.

These thoughts were expressed by engineer Jesus Lachean, president of the Municipal Institute Foundation for Energy, as he addressed the 2-day meeting of the Zulian bloc of parliamentary members convening here since yesterday. Mr Lachean's objective was to urge this distinguished group of parliamentarians and official and private guests, on the one hand, to help obtain the necessary governmental endorsement for completion of the Zulian capital's entire national gas network, and on the other hand, to try to change to some extent the attitude of those who head the Venezuelan oil industry and persuade them of the advisability of the more extensive use of gas to benefit the community in general and the development of the country.

Jesus Lachean pointed out that in the world's major industrialized nations like the United States, where Venezuelan oil is normally shipped, in times of war as in times of peace, 90 percent of their populations are served by piped gas, which is beyond any doubt a much cheaper form of energy and a highly significant factor in the well-being of the population.

Jesus Lachean said that the financing needed to serve all of Maracaibo in this way amounts to 400 million bolivars on a long-term basis, with which the remaining short-term debt for the second phase that is now coming to an end could be paid off and the third phase completed by 1982, thus guaranteeing that no sector of the city would be without this service, whose reliability is now assured by the high degree of technology that has been used in the first two phases.

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CORPOVEN DISCOVERS HEAVY OIL SAND IN SOUTHERN GUARICO

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 20 Mar 80 p 1-18

[Text] In the course of its current wildcat drilling program in the southern part of the state of Guarico, CORPOVEN has verified the presence there of tar sands.

According to a press report, CORPOVEN is now completing its first wildcat well, identified as NON-1E, in the region known as Machete in the Orinoco Tar Belt. NON-1E is located 62 kilometers from Cabruta, a few meters from the road leading to Las Mercedes and ending at the Orinoco riverside port in Guarico.

Engineer Fernando Sanchez, managing head of the Oriental division, stated that CORPOVEN's exploratory program "has begun with very promising results, in that analysis of core samples obtained there reveals the presence of a 280-foot column of heavy-oil impregnated sands at four different horizontals."

In Southern Guarico

The Machete region has an area of 2,361,000 hectares and is situated south of Calabozo and of the Las Mercedes and Tucupido fields, and west of the Zuata river, fully inside the state of Guarico. It is an extensive region, fundamentally bushland with an intense summer, that with the start of the rainy season is generally transformed into a region where operations become extremely difficult.

Region's Background

In the past, the Machete region had been considered of little interest by the former concessionnaires. When CORPOVEN initiated its program on 20 February of this year 21 wells had been drilled, none of which had been completed as a producer even though most of them had indicated the presence of hydrocarbons.

In 1976, at the request of the Ministry of Energy and Mines, an operating company drilled two test wells, one of which, the Machete-2X, indicated a 200-foot column of oil. The importance of this well lies in the fact that it is situated precisely in the center of the area that is being explored by CORPOVEN and is therefore in a priority zone.

Until 1976, only one third of the region had been analyzed using modern seismic exploratory methods. Between the end of 1978 and now, CORPOVEN has surveyed an additional 2,200 kilometers within a program that, upon its completion in the very near future, will have covered some 4,700 kilometers of survey in this region.

Definition or Objectives

The purpose of the exploratory program being carried out in the Machete region under CORPOVEN's responsibility is to define its stratigraphy, regional structure, and so forth; determine its quantities of sedimentary mother rock and reservoir rock; assess possible accumulations of hydrocarbons; and effect an exhaustive analysis of the latter.

The program aims to evaluate all the kinds of entrapments that may underlie the region, in the shortest time possible, and, concurrently, to plan in detail the future development of priority areas based on volumes of petroleum in situ and the characteristics of the crude encountered.

1980 Within a 5-Year Plan

CORPOVEN's exploratory program for Machete includes, for 1980, the drilling of 28 wildcat wells to final depths ranging between 2,000 and 7,650 feet, and the running of 2,780 kilometers of seismic surveys, all of which will require an investment estimated at 161 million bolivars. Conceived as part of a 5-year plan, this program provides for a minimum total of 128 wildcat wells and 9,000 kilometers of seismic surveys.

Upon completion of the MON-1E [as published] wildcat, CORPOVEN will equip it for a production test run that will provide an estimate of its production capacity and quantify the deposit. Production samples will also be analyzed to determine the oil's gravity and its composition.

For its part, CORPOVEN Drilling Rig No 4 will be transferred to the SE-1 site, located near Espino, where drilling will start on the second well under the current program.

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CORPOVEN SEISMIC EXPLORATION CONTINUES IN THREE REGIONS

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 2-9

[Text] In continuation of the exploratory effort required by our national oil industry, with the aim of finding new hydrocarbon reserves, CORPOVEN plans to run, during the current year, a total of 6,511 kilometers of seismic surveys, comprising programs with different objectives, within the regions for whose exploratory activities it is responsible.

Of the total number of kilometers mentioned, 3,588 are in areas situated in the western region of the country, 743 in the eastern region, and 2,180 in the Orinoco Tar Belt. In accordance with the overall plan, the following distinct programs are to be implemented:

Western Region

Urdaneta-Macca: This survey, covering one of CORPOVEN,s most promising oil exploration areas, calls for the running of 700 kilometers of cross fan seismographic recordings in a zone situated in the western part of the state of Zulia. This work will require an investment of 10 million bolivars.

West of Coro: The first exploratory stage in an area between Urumaco and Coro, in the state of Falcon, will consist of 550 kilometers of cross fan seismographic recordings, requiring an investment of 6 million bolivars.

Masparro Norte: This seismic program, covering a zone east of the CORPOVEN fields in the state of Barinas, consists of a detailed mesh survey over two structures that have been characterized as prospective by the company's technicians. A survey length of 80 kilometers is involved in this case, and the cost will be 1 million bolivars.

Ensenada de La Vela: This offshore survey program designed to discern possible hydrocarbon deposits in the area of La Vela north of the Adicora fold, and covering 480 kilometers of cross fan seismographic recordings, was carried out by the GECO [expansion unknown] company's ship "Malena Ostervald" between 17 and 24 January at a cost of 1 million bolivars.

Urdaneta-Mara: This survey, in the western part of Zulia, was started during the last quarter of 1979, and consists of 1,600 kilometers of cross fan seismic runs, of which 1,420 kilometers will be recorded in 1980. The total investment will be 22.6 million bolivars.

Nutrias-Bruzual: This survey, consisting of 1,900 kilometers of fanned recordings in the Nutrias and Bruzual areas of the states of Barinas and Apure, was started in January 1979. After suspension of operations in May 1979, owing to the extremely heavy rainy season in the zone, they were resumed in February of this year; 350 kilometers remain to complete the the survey. The cost of the remaining work is 4.6 million bolivars.

Tar Belt

Southeastern Guarico: 1,160 kilometers of seismographic fan shootings will be run in the southeastern part of the Orinoco Tar Belt under PETROVEN's responsibility. This program will require an investment of 15.7 bolivars.

Dakoa Sur: This project, in the central part of Guarico, near the northern end of the Belt, comprises 355 kilometers of mesh recordings around various prospective structures associated with the Jabon fault. Its cost will be 5.1 million bolivars.

Manapire-Guarin: Of a total of 2,860 kilometers, planned in 1978, when this survey was started, 665 kilometers remain to be run in 1980. The program calls for seismographic fan shootings in the western part of Guarico inside the Tar Belt. The cost of the projected work for this year will be 7.7 million bolivars.

Eastern Region

Acema Norte-Aguasay: This survey calls for 530 kilometers of detailed mesh seismograms in various areas assigned to CORPOVEN in the north central part of the state of Monagas, as part of a program that will require an investment of 7.2 million bolivars.

Guamache: This survey, consisting of 150 kilometers of mesh seismographic runs in this area of central Anzoategui, will require an investment of 2.1 million bolivars.

Tacat: This program comprises 63 kilometers of seismographic mesh recordings in the Tacat area north of Monagas, an area characterized by its geological complexity, and will require an investment of 900,000 bolivars.

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OIL EXPORTS DOWN IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1980

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 16 Mar 80 p 1

[Text] Production as well as exports of oil dropped sharply in the first two months of 1980, accoridng to a report by the Ministry of Energy and Mines. Over the period to 12 March, production in fact averaged 2,216,490 barrels a day, representing a drop of 139,872 barrels a day as compared with the 2,356,362 barrels a day average for the same period in 1979. The 1980 production plan calls for 2,222,000 barrels a day. Exports averaged 1,727,000 barrels a day for the period ending 6 March, as compared with 2,032,000 barrels for the same period in 1979, representing a drop of 305,000 barrels a day, or 15.01 percent. The 1980 export program calls for an average of 1,895,000 barrels a day.

Oil Production
(Barrels/Day)

1980 average to 12 Mar 1980	2,216,490
1979 average for same period	2,356,362
Drop	139,872
Percent drop	5.94
1980 program	2,222,000

Exports of Crudes and Products
(Barrels/Day)

1980 average to 6 Mar 1980	1,727,000
1979 average for same period	2,032,000
Drop	305,000
Percent drop	15.01
1980 program	1,895,000

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BRIEFS

LIGHT CRUDE TO SPAIN--Caracas, 13 Mar (VENPRES)--CORPOVEN announced today the shipment of a cargo of crude to Spain in the largest tanker ever to dock at the Punta de Palmas port of embarkation on the west coast of Lake Maracaibo. The gigantic ship took on a cargo of light crude extracted from CORPOVEN's oil-producing zones in the Zulian region and destined for Castellon, Spain. The "King Agamemnon," of Libyan registry, is 288 meters long by 38 meters wide and arrived from the United States. To fully convey an idea of its size, suffice it to mention that its deck could amply accommodate a football field. With a capacity of 800,000 barrels, the ship took on a load at Punta de Palmas which after being completed at Puerto La Cruz totaled 500,000 barrels of crude. Worthy of mention is the high degree of professionalism displayed by the Venezuelan personnel in the docking, loading and clearing of the ship for sailing at Punta de Palmas. Levy Ferrer, of the Maracaibo Harbor Master's Office, and Captains Nolberto Arceo and Amilcar Troncone, chiefs, respectively, of the Marine and Terminal sections of CORPOVEN's western region, all took part in the operations. Close to 15 tankers a month sail from the Punta de Palmas shipping terminal, which is capable of docking ships of up to 42 feet draft, for coastal points as well as for ports in various parts of the world. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 2-4] 9238

LA PAZ OIL FIELD PRODUCTION--Caracas 13 Mar (VENPRES)--The two wells drilled by MARAVEN, a subsidiary of PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc], in the La Paz oil field's new deposit (40 kilometers west of Lake Maracaibo), in the state of Zulia, are producing over 1,500 barrels daily, according to press reports today. The two new wells are P-192 and P-193, and assisted-recovery methods, such as steam or gas injection, are being used to extract their crude. The La Paz field was discovered in 1921 with well P-3, which was completed at a depth of 2,460 meters, producing 1,000 barrels a day of crude with an API (American Petroleum Institute) gravity of 18 degrees. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 2-30] 9238

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